

Botha wants fresh Angola talks

ROQUEBRUNE, France (R) — Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko's efforts to revive Angolan peace talks received South Africa's blessing Monday, but Foreign Minister P.W. Botha urged Mobutu to restart negotiations from scratch. Botha's two-hour meeting with Mobutu's representative on a weekend of intense negotiations at the Zairean leader's villa on the French Riviera. A Mobutu spokesman said Botha supported Mobutu's mediation aimed at arranging a ceasefire in Angola's 14-year civil war. But a South African source stressed that Pretoria did not accept Mobutu's version of a ceasefire he arranged in June, which rapidly collapsed. He said it was unacceptable that Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi, a Pretoria ally, would have accepted such unfavourable terms. "It would have amounted to Savimbi showing the white flag," the source said. Botha would therefore like a re-start of "proper negotiations" including direct talks between (UNITA) National Union for the Total Independence of Angola and the Marxist government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

Jordan Times

An independent political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز مؤسسة صحفية اردنية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية الراي

Bomb injures Saudi diplomat

ANKARA (R) — A bomb seriously injured a Saudi diplomat in the Turkish capital Monday, exploding under the seat of his car and shattering both his legs. The Saudi Arabian embassy said the bomb, which blew out windows in nearby seven-story apartment blocks, apparently went off just after Attaché Abdurrahman Shrewi, 28, had parked in Ankara's Cankaya residential district. A hospital doctor said Shrewi had lost both legs, shattered in the blast. The bomb exploded in front of a four-story building which houses the offices of the Saudi military attaché where Shrewi worked in the second section. Ankara Governor Saffet Arifon Bedek told reporters he believed the blast had been caused by a time-bomb. Shrewi is the second Saudi diplomat to be attacked in Ankara in the past year. Embassy Second Secretary Abdul Ghani Reddawi was shot dead by a gunman on the steps to his Cankaya home Oct. 26 last year. No claims have been made for either attack.

Volume 14 Number 4215

AMMAN TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1989, RABIA AWWAL 17, 1410

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Regent sounds alarm over Soviet emigration to Israel

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — One of the major but least publicly mentioned factors that led to Jordan's current financial problems is the political and economic price that the Kingdom paid for Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and it further faces a potential grave threat in the expected wave of Soviet Jewish emigration to the Zionist state, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, said Monday.

"The Jordanian economy has shouldered more than its share of the burden — the creation of 200,000 jobs in the last 20 years is itself quite an achievement in view of the various economic factors that challenged it," the Regent said at an informal briefing for reporters at the Royal Court.

The Regent pointed out that while Jordan continued to extend financial support to the Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza, Israel slowly transformed the occupied territories into "the second biggest market for its products after the U.S."

The occupation of the territories costs Israel annually around \$1.100 million, but the trade surplus that the Zionist state enjoys with the West Bank and Gaza is around \$5.6 billion, the Regent said.

"Jordan, which paid heavily to support the Palestinians (who fled their land to Jordan) over the past 20 years, has also paid a heavy price over the return of citizens from the Gulf area, and is again facing a danger," the Regent said. "Our media are preoccupied with the Egyptian 10-point proposal (on Palestinian-Israeli talks), the Lebanese peace efforts and the (Jordanian) elections, but... the Israeli media are preoccupied with the expected immigration of Soviet Jews."

The Regent pointed out that out of the 200,000 Soviet Jews expected to leave their country only 18,000 would be taken in by the United States. The rest will head direct to Israel and will end up in the occupied territories "at the expense of the Palestinians there, and, by extension, at the expense of Jordan since there could be another exodus" of Palestinians across the river, the Regent said.

"Therefore, I am sounding an alarm to our Arab brethren that (in such a situation) the stability of the Jordanian economy will be undermined," he said. "Jordan, which withstood internal and external pressure on the dinar and other adverse elements, is the last Arab wall against Israel, and if its economy collapses, it will be an ideal opportunity for Israel to exploit, after having already engulfed the economy of the occupied territories," he added.

Countering Israeli suggestions and contentions, the Regent reaffirmed that "Jordan was totally sincere in its decision to sever (legal and administrative ties) with the West Bank."

"They (Israelis) would like to interpret otherwise," he said, posing the "threat of transfer" of Palestinians in the occupied lands to Jordan, coupled with the "everlooming emigration" of Soviet Jews.

At the same time, he underlined the centrality of Jordan in efforts to develop the West Bank and Gaza. He said there was a recent request that he chair a meeting of the Joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee to Support the Steadfastness of the People Living in the Occupied Territories and the theme of the meeting was to be "rural development" in the areas. "There is definitely a need for comprehensive development," he said. Jordan is ready to work in total coordination with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in this context "if the PLO so desires," he said.

The first task awaiting the Lower House of Parliament, expected to be elected Nov. 8, is to discuss the Kingdom's fiscal budget for 1990, the Regent noted. "The precise background of the economic situation and the

facts and figures should be clearly understood by (the Lower House) in an objective manner," he added.

The Regent said the International Monetary Fund (IMF), with which Jordan agreed on an economic reform programme earlier this year, considers the Kingdom as "a model of salutary change, not because we implemented their policies but because we were aware of our problems some time before they happened."

The Regent said though Jordan came under adverse pressure following its decision to sever legal and administrative links with the West Bank, the measures adopted by the Kingdom were slowly bearing fruit. He cited as examples assistance offered by various governments, including the Arab states, the U.S., Japan and West Germany and others as well as the World Bank.

The Crown Prince, who visited Washington for talks with President George Bush and other senior administration officials and IMF and World Bank officials last month, said Jordan was to receive a total of \$237 million in American aid for the fiscal year starting September 1989. Washington has agreed to provide \$62 million in technical and food aid, \$5 million in supplementary grant, \$15 million in housing guarantee bonds with 30-



HRH Crown Prince Hassan

year maturity, \$78 million in food facilities under general sales management programmes (GSM), \$48 million in military credits and \$2 million in military training assistance. In addition, the Kingdom will also receive \$37 million from the U.S., he said without elaboration.

The Crown Prince also disclosed that a new gas field was recently discovered near the Iraqi border, in addition to the already productive Al Rishheh well. "The gas situation is very encouraging," he said, adding that the location of the new field indicated that the gas deposits were in Jordanian territory.

Officials have said that the new well was discovered some two kilometres west of Al Rishheh, well into Jordanian territory, confirming hopes that the deposits were within Jordanian territory. No figures on production capacities or deposits are yet available. The Regent said the discovery had encouraged the American Hunt company to stay on in Jordan and the Canadian government to increase its technical assistance to the Kingdom.

652 candidates formally vie for 80 House seats

AMMAN (J.T.) — The three-day candidacy nomination period for the Nov. 8 general elections ended Monday with a total number of 652 candidates for the 80 seats in the Lower House of Parliament, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said. According to Petra, the split up of the total number was: Amman Governorate; 23 in the First District (three seats); 27 in the Second District (three seats); 55 in the Third District (five seats); 19 in the Fourth District (two seats); 53 in the Fifth District (five seats); and 28 in the Sixth District (three seats). Irbid Governorate: 70 in

Irbid City and suburbs (eight seats); 20 in Jerash, 32 in Ajlun, 18 in Ramtha and Bani Khasma, and 18 in the Jordan Valley and Al Qunayra. Other governorates: Balqa — 42; Zarqa — 63; Ma'arra — 22; Karak — 16; Ma'an — 28; Tafleeh — 67; Northern Bedouin region — 19; Central Bedouin region — 18; Southern Bedouin region — 14.

The governors of Amman, Irbid and Zarqa rejected seven candidacy applications and another eight dropped out, Petra said.

According to Petra, three of the applications were rejected

because "of application in districts other than those assigned in the law, though they were previously acknowledged that they have the right to run in their own districts."

The remaining four were rejected because one has been holding Jordanian nationality for less than 10 years, the second because he did not enjoy the conditions of Jordanian nationality and the third because he held another foreign nationality other than Jordanian. The fourth was rejected because he was convicted with a felony that prevents his running for the elections.

Mediators reject Lebanese rightist stand on Syrian role

TAIF, Saudi Arabia (Agencies) — Arab mediators have rejected a demand by Lebanese Christians for a timetable for a Syrian troop evacuation, offering instead guarantees for a phased pullback from Beirut to east Lebanon in two years, conference sources said Monday.

The Syrian military intervention had developed into the main stumbling block in a 17-day-old discussion by 63 Lebanese parliamentarians — 33 Christians and 30 Muslims — of an Arab-proposed peace plan for their civil war-plagued country.

The plan, presented by a three-member Arab committee, comprised four chapters, dealing with political reforms, Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon, Syria's 40,000 troops in the country and the future relations with Damascus.

Deputies say that a 17-member parliamentary task force Dinnally approved a draft for political reforms Friday after days of bitter wrangling between the Christians, who insisted on linking the reforms to a Syrian withdrawal, and the Muslims seeking a greater share of power.

But Arab mediators and deputies have warned that no agreement could be considered final until a plenary session approves a comprehensive, four-chapter draft being debated by the committee.

Parliamentarians have reneged on agreements several times during the marathon sessions, mainly under pressure from warlords and militia chieftains in Beirut.

After a day-long argument Sunday, Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal

summoned the six hardline Christian parliamentarians, headed by George Saadeh, secretary-general of the right-wing Falange party, to a late night meeting.

He told them that Arab committee rejects any alteration of its original proposal on the Syrian issue, Lebanese radio stations reported.

The committee had proposed a phased withdrawal from Beirut and its surroundings to the eastern Bekaa Valley to be completed in two years. It linked a total Syrian evacuation from Lebanon to conclusion of a Lebanese-Syrian security pact and an Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon.

The Lebanese broadcasts said Faisal suggested that the Arab committee, comprising Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Algeria, provide the Christians with a separate document containing written guarantees that the Syrians will complete their withdrawal into the Bekaa in two years.

But the Christians, according to Voice of Lebanon, the main Christian radio station in Beirut, and the Arabic service of Radio Monte Carlo, Monday handed Prince Saud a nine-point document suggesting a two-year period for withdrawal into the Bekaa and a total evacuation by the following year.

Christians accuse Syria of seeking to annex east Lebanon to make use of the agricultural lands and waters of the once fertile Bekaa Valley.

Muslims want the Syrians to stay until the Christians, who have dominated the parliament,

government, army and judiciary since independence from France in 1943, give them an equal share of power.

In Beirut, a coalition of Syrian-backed Muslim and leftist groups demanded an immediate end to the present political system favouring the Christian minority. The front addressed its statement to the members of parliament in Taif to debate the Arab-proposed charter to end 14 years of civil war.

The Christian deputies, giving new details of their proposals, said one idea would be for Algerian, Moroccan and Saudi Arabian troops to man a security zone in central Beirut during presidential elections.

The trio arranged a ceasefire in Lebanon Sept. 23 and are sponsoring the Taif talks.

In Damascus, the official Syrian newspaper Tishrin said Lebanese army chief Michel Aoun would reject political reforms even if the Syrian army did leave.

"Syria has repeatedly stated that its forces will start withdrawal when a national unity government is formed," it said.

A leftist Muslim deputy, Zaher Al Khatib, rejecting the Christian demands for changes, said: "It's the Syrian presence that guarantees security, so there should be no change in the original timetable."

Any agreement in Taif will require the approval of Aoun and the militia factions, the effective authority on the ground. Government control has been eroded by the civil war.

Two Gazan children killed

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — An eight-year-old Palestinian boy died Monday, three days after he was shot in the head by Israeli soldiers during a demonstration in the occupied Gaza Strip.

In another incident, a group of Israelis tried Monday to lay a three-ton cornerstone for a "new" Jewish temple in Jerusalem's Old City, provoking a protest that caused at least 20 injuries.

Police barred the group from bringing the cornerstone within the Old City walls. The ban fouled the effort by the "Temple Mount faithful movement" to take a first step toward rebuilding a temple which it claims destroyed in 70 A.D. by the Romans.

High school students in Arab Jerusalem, apparently enraged at reports of the planned ceremony, threw rocks at police and paramilitary border police.

Fifteen Palestinian students and five policemen were reported hurt in the melee, one of the most violent clashes in Jerusalem in the 22-month-old uprising.

At least 40 students were arrested, police said. The Palestinian boy died Monday, three days after being shot by Israeli soldiers during a demonstration in the Gaza Strip. He was identified by the army as Qassem Abdullah Abu Labda of the Khan Yunis refugee camp.

A three-year-old Palestinian boy from the Gaza Strip died Sunday, three days after being shot, by Israeli soldiers. Palestinians said soldiers shot and critically wounded Atiya Al Farayant Thursday at Shati refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. He died Sunday at a Tel Aviv hospital.

The Itim news agency said he was shot in the head by a rubber bullet while playing outside his house.

The plans by the "Temple Mount faithful" to lay a cornerstone were called provocative by several newspapers, including the Arabic-language Al Nahar in Arab Jerusalem.

Al Nahar, in an editorial published Monday, called the Jewish demonstrators "a racist group which aims to start riots." It added: "What they are going to do today is just an invitation from these radicals to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims."

The Hebrew-language newspaper Ha'arets also denounced the group's actions, saying the Israeli demonstrators "are playing with fire."

Israel Radio said police were investigating whether the planned ceremony set off the trouble at the Rashadieh high school, which is just outside the Old City walls. About 100 Israelis had planned

to place the three-ton stone at the foot of a ramp leading to the Haram Al Sharif complex, which houses two of Islam's holiest shrines, the Al Aqsa and Dome of the Rock mosques.

Police blocked the metallic gray truck carrying the cornerstone from entering the Old City. Police said students from Rashadieh boys school opposite the Old City hurled large stones at passing officers from behind a courtyard wall. Forty students were arrested, a police spokesman said.

As the protest spread, police called in reinforcements including paramilitary police and mounted officers who galloped through main Jerusalem streets chasing suspected stone-throwers.

Fلسطينians said police opened fire in all directions with rubber bullets and tear-gas, stormed the schoolyard and lobbed gas grenades into classrooms.

'Mossad behind Syrian defection'

BEIRUT (AP) — Israel's secret service used a Druze woman to lure the Syrian air force pilot who defected to Israel last week with his Soviet-made Mig-23 fighter jet, a conservative daily newspaper reported Monday.

Al Riyaz, which is based in east Beirut, said in an unsourced front-page report that the woman, who was not identified, confessed that she had been recruited by the Israeli intelligence when she was arrested after her boyfriend's defection.

Mayor Mohammad Bassam Adel, 34, was on a training flight over southern Syria when he crossed into Israel and land at an airstrip used by crop-dusting planes.

Al Diyar said Israel was interested in gaining direct information from a Syrian pilot on the Mig-23.

"After some surveillance, an Israeli secret service officer found out that a Syrian Druze girl was having an affair with a Syrian pilot," the newspaper added.

It said the woman from Soweida, the provincial capital of southern Syria, made frequent visits to Druze relatives in the town of Hasbaya, just outside an Israeli-controlled "security zone" in South Lebanon.

The Israeli officer managed to approach and recruit the woman to work for Mossad, providing her with enough money to lure Adel to defect to Israel, Al Diyar said.

"The girl told her boyfriend that Israel would provide them with a house and a large amount of money, estimated at millions of dollars, or new documents with which the couple could travel to the United States," it added.

It said Mossad provided Adel with a special radio frequency for contacting Israeli authorities once in the air so he could be given a flight plan.

After the warning Adel would revert to the normal Syrian air force frequency and continue his routine training flight for about 20 minutes to give Israel time to prepare for his arrival.

The newspaper said Adel was ordered on a training flight the day after receiving the Israeli instructions and did not have time to warn his girlfriend.

Al Diyar said the girl was at home unaware of the actual defection, preparing to leave for Israel two days later via Hasbaya, to join Adel.

Mubarak, Qadhafi seal reconciliation

MERSA METRUH, Egypt (Agencies) — After nearly three hours of talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi said Monday he felt he was back among his family on his visit to Egypt for 16 years.

"I do not feel as a guest in this place. I am among my family and my brothers," Qadhafi told reporters.

Mubarak read a brief statement saying Egypt and Libya were now strongly linked. So far, the two leaders have stopped short of announcing resumption of full diplomatic ties.

"I hope (these) ties improve," Mubarak said. Qadhafi's first visit to Egypt in 16 years began with a 200-kilometre car journey from the desert border, scene of skirmishes in 1977 when acrimonious relations plunged into a shooting war.

The mercurial Libyan has long laid claim to Egypt's western desert, going so far as to issue nomadic herdsmen with Libyan identity cards.

But after the two leaders' two-hour 40-minute session of apparently relaxed reconciliation talks on a terrace overlooking the Mediterranean, Qadhafi appeared to indicate he had dropped a long-standing claim to Egypt's western desert.

"This soil is Arab soil. It is Libyan and Egyptian people and soil," he said.

Waiters served the two leaders with soft drinks as they began their talks in a relaxed and cheerful mood.

Relations between the two neighbours began to warm again when their leaders met at Casablanca last May during an Arab League summit at which Cairo was formally readmitted to the Arab mainstream after being boycotted because of its 1979 treaty with Israel.

For Qadhafi, long an advocate of tearing down what he regards as artificial borders dividing Arabs, Monday's journey had particular symbolic significance.

Qadhafi flew home later Monday. Privately, Egyptian officials said Mubarak might resume the discussions Tuesday in the Libyan garrison town of Tobruk.

Qadhafi was welcomed upon arrival here by Mubarak, with a band playing the two states' national anthems and a guard of honour saluting the visitor.

But carefully-orchestrated crowds of flag-waving Egyptians and welcoming banners were conspicuously absent along the route to a villa on the edge of town, underlining Egypt's concern for security.

Sharpshooters had taken up position on city rooftops, and a frigate hovered offshore. Soldiers armed with shoulder-fired anti-tank rocket launchers patrolled Mersa Metruh's beaches, close to the rock where Cleopatra is said to have bathed and a nearby cave where German General Rommel had his World War II command.

Blue-beretted troops from Mubarak's 3,000-strong crack Presidential Guard ringed the cliffside government villa where the two leaders held their talks.

They said they did not know when they would receive West German passports or how they would travel.

A spokesman for the Polish airline Lot said it received an enquiry about chartering planes from the West German embassy at the weekend but no order was made.

An official of the West German airline Lufthansa in Warsaw said it was ready to provide planes to fly out the refugees but had received no concrete proposal from West German authorities.

The loss of nationality also appeared to free Polish authorities to allow the refugees to leave. As East Germans, Poland could not allow them to travel without permission from authorities in Berlin.

However, loss of nationality also indicated that the refugees would not be allowed to travel to the West through East Germany.

Two special trains carrying a total of nearly 1,500 refugees went through East Germany from Warsaw earlier this month.

Former East Germans who emerged from the embassy in central Warsaw said they were going back to special residences

East Germans 'stateless' ahead of travel to West

WARSAW (R) — East Germany's embassy in Warsaw began handing out emigration papers to hundreds of East Germans seeking passage to the West Monday — but told them they had to renounce their citizenship in order to travel.

"The East German government found a solution for those East German citizens who are in Poland by issuing them a certificate about renunciation of citizenship and providing them with an identification paper," East German Ambassador Juergen von Zwoil told reporters.

"These people can go to whatever country they wish. Their

future destination does not interest us."

Members of the first group of 15 refugees who entered the embassy told reporters they signed a certificate inside renouncing their citizenship. They were then given the certificate and an identification paper with their photograph.

"We are now stateless people," laughing teenagers told reporters as they left the embassy.

They said this meant they could travel to any country that would accept them. West Germany considers East Germans as its own citizens and automatically grants them passports.

Israel's role in Lebanon moves to economy, roads and schools

By Marty Kufus
The Associated Press

METULLA — Every working day, nearly 2,000 Christians, Druze and Muslims pass from Lebanon through four "good fence" border crossings into Israel, heading to the best steady work around.

Israel's economy barely feels the workers' contribution. But Israel's "security" may be uniquely tied to the Lebanese presence, one of many signs of Israel's increasing entanglement in the southern Lebanese region once controlled by forces hostile to the Zionist state.

After its invasion in 1982, Israel created the "security zone" in South Lebanon as a buffer against resistance attacks. Today, Israeli analysts warn that unemployment in the area could cut into the "loyalty" of the 200,000 Lebanese residents of the zone.

"The security zone is relatively quiet mainly because of the sense that economic stability prevails. There's too much for the people to lose," said Yusef Olmest, a Middle East expert at Tel Aviv University.

But if the economy sours, "nothing will stop disenchanted people who don't have economic opportunity."

The "security zone" is about 120 kilometres long and four to 20 kilometres deep. It was established in 1985 after Israel withdrew the bulk of its troops from Lebanon following a three-year occupation. So far this year 71

guerrillas have been killed while infiltrating the zone.

An army official who demanded anonymity said Lebanese workers seeking to enter Israel must have a relative serving in the South Lebanon Army (SLA), the 2,500-member Christian-led militia that is trained and armed by Israel.

Metulla's "good fence," which was opened in 1976, is a cluster of buildings, a watchtower and a fence next to an Israeli army post. Workers show identity cards, present work permits and empty their pockets in a check for contraband.

"We all are running away from the war in Lebanon, and we are here to work," Nadeen Badawi, 23, said after driving from the town of Hasbaya, 17 kilometres north of the border.

Arriving about sunrise, he works Sunday through Friday at an Israeli textile factory.

A 48-year-old Lebanese Christian awaiting a chartered bus to another factory said most of the workers earn a daily wage of about 34 shekels, the equivalent of \$17.

"Most of the men are working in agriculture. A few, like me, work in factories. It is like the Mexicans in America," said the former electronics technician who declined to give his name for fear of reprisals.

Some Lebanese complained that Israeli wages were too low. But most conceded they could do no better in Lebanon, where purchasing power has been steadily

eroded by inflation and the average monthly salary is the equivalent of \$75.

Israeli officials say 1,500 to 2,000 Lebanese workers now enter the country daily, compared with only a few hundred in past years.

Half are women who work in hotels, restaurants and as housekeepers. Men generally seek jobs in factories or on farms, where extra money can be made during harvests. Skilled auto mechanics are also in demand. Most return home nightly, but some are provided with housing for stays of up to several weeks.

The Israeli presence in South Lebanon, according to foreign reports, consists of about 1,500 troops and advisers as well as fixed military outposts.

Unlike the Israeli-occupied territories of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, there are no Israeli settlements in southern Lebanon and Israeli civilians are forbidden from entering.

But Israel's influence is not limited to military support and it appears to be growing.

About \$1.3 million in Israeli aid was provided for road repairs last year in addition to funds for schools and hospitals and salary supplements for Lebanese city hall bureaucrats and police.

"In areas where the central government in Lebanon should have built infrastructure and promoted social activity and education, and didn't take care of it, we are taking care of it," said Uri Lubrani, Israel's coordinator

for Lebanon policy.

He recently inaugurated a new crossing that will be used primarily by Shi'ite Muslims despite Iran's strong influence among Shi'ites. He predicted 300 to 400 Shi'ites would cross daily to Israeli jobs and the number would increase.

The Israeli shekel has also begun to circulate in South Lebanon along with the U.S. dollar and the Lebanese lira.

Frances Rizk, a Lebanese official of the Christian radio station Voice of Hope, estimated the area's trade at \$2 million a month, mostly in the form of imported Israeli agricultural goods and exported Lebanese labour.

"Our financial situation is still the best in all of Lebanon," Rizk said.

Israel has said repeatedly it will withdraw if Syria pulls out its 40,000 troops and if Lebanon forms a stable government that could maintain peace.

"Israel has no territorial claims on Lebanon," said Yossi Amihud, the foreign ministry spokesman.

Yoram Hamizrach, a retired colonel and former Israeli army commander in South Lebanon from 1976 to 1980, said he believes Israel is in no hurry to leave Lebanon.

"Nobody talks in terms of getting ready to pull out," he said. The "security zone" is not a strategy, but a tactical need, and it won't change as long as there is no government in Lebanon."

Sudan gets new arms as ceasefire end approaches

KHARTOUM (R) — Three weeks before a ceasefire is due to end in southern Sudan's civil war, the government is shifting fresh supplies of Chinese arms to the besieged town of Juba, diplomats say.

A Libyan commercial plane makes two flights a day to ferry arms from the capital, Juba, the biggest town in the south, is under siege by Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) rebels, the diplomats said.

Diplomats said the weapon, which arrived in Port Sudan on the Red Sea and have been reaching Khartoum by rail for more than a week, were ordered from Peking more than a year ago by deposed Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi.

The weapons include 20 armoured personnel carriers, 60 heavy mortars, ten 130-mm guns, fifty 1,000 pound bombs and anti-aircraft guns, the diplomats said. A unilateral ceasefire declared by General Omar Hassan Al Bashir, who overthrew Mahdi in a coup on June 30, expires on Nov. 4. Diplomats fear renewed fighting.

Delegates at a conference in Khartoum discussing the six-year old civil war Saturday recommended a federal system of government, state-run Radio Omdurman said.

The SPLA, fighting what it regards as domination of the



John Gering

mainly Christian and animist south by the Muslim and Arabised north, has boycotted the conference.

The government last week accused the SPLA of violating its own unilateral ceasefire with attacks in south Kordofan province.

A committee at the Khartoum conference said federation would suit Sudan as its regions differed widely in culture, religion and economic development.

A federal president and vice president could be elected by direct vote, said the committee headed by southerner Phil Obang, a Foreign Ministry official. There would also be a federal judiciary.

Algeria defers retrial of Islamic militants

ALGIERS (R) — An Algerian criminal court on Sunday adjourned a controversial re-trial of 15 Islamic militants and sent the case to the Supreme Court for a ruling on judicial competence.

Algerian radio said a criminal court in Blida, 50 kilometres south of Algiers, deferred the case after defence lawyers argued it was not competent to judge political dissidents.

The defendants, sporting thick beards, skull caps and long robes, were found guilty by a now-defunct State Security Court in 1987 of plotting to overthrow the government.

More than 1,000 Islamic militants flocked to the courtroom to support the defendants and a call by fundamentalist leaders for their immediate release.

Unable to fit into the tiny courtroom, they gathered peacefully on the street behind a police cordon, occasionally reading aloud Koranic verses.

Three of the accused had been sentenced to death and four to life imprisonment, but the judgement was subsequently overturned on technical grounds by the Supreme Court.

"Our defendants refuse to be considered common delinquents. They declare themselves part of a political movement that is now recognised," the radio quoted one defence lawyer as saying.

The opposition Islamic Salvation Front, known by its French initials FIS, was legalised last month as part of sweeping democratic reforms launched after youth riots rocked the country a year ago.

The prosecution had argued the criminal court should try the defendants regardless of their political motives because they had committed murder and theft.

The three men condemned to death earlier — Abdul Kader Chabouti, Meliani Mansouri and Mohammed Anamara — were found guilty of involvement "in a raid on a police school south of Algiers in 1985 in which a policeman was killed and arms seized."

All 15 were associates of Moustapha Bouali, a Muslim fundamentalist who led an uprising against the state from 1983 until he was shot dead by security forces in 1987.

Ali Belhadj, a leading figure in the FIS, told Reuters during a break in the trial his group demanded the release of all imprisoned fundamentalists. He said 60 were in jail.

"These people rebelled against a government which, after the events of last October, showed itself to be illegitimate," he said. He said some of the defendants had been tortured and demanded those responsible be tried.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Bodies recovered from Saudi crash

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — A Saudi Arabian rescue team has recovered the bodies of three British Aerospace Corp. employees and two Saudi fliers killed in a plane crash over the kingdom's eastern province, a British embassy diplomat said Monday. The diplomat, who refused to be named, said arrangements for flying the bodies home were "up to British Aerospace." He said the bodies were recovered Sunday several hours after the crash. He and other sources contacted by telephone at the embassy refused to give other details, or provide the British victims' names. But the Foreign Office in London identified the three British nationals as Rodney Dix, a pilot, and training instructors Alan Smith and Dave Stenhouse. The Saudi Defence and Aviation Ministry identified the two Saudi victims as flier trainees Saleh Ibn Jamaan and Awad Ibn Hussein Al Qasbi. They were to be buried here later in the day. The Saudi ministry said in a statement the twin-engine Jetstream 31 aircraft crashed during a training mission Saturday over the eastern province, which harbours Ghawar and Al Fufel, the world's largest oil fields. The Jetstream crashed after "a major technical failure," said the statement, issued Sunday.

Algerian journalists seek media reform

ALGIERS (R) — Algerian journalists have formally created an independent trade union and called for radical reform of the country's state media. A communiqué carried by the Algerian News Agency (APS) Sunday after a two-day national journalists' conference said the present system had led to professional and intellectual sterility. "Algerian journalists call on the authorities to carry out a profound restructuring of the system of national information," the statement said. All Algerian media are owned and run by the government and journalists have complained of censorship, arbitrary dismissals and worsening work conditions. The movement of Algerian journalists quickly became the main journalists' union after its formation in mid-1988 in opposition to an official union linked to the ruling National Liberation Front. The conference, with 453 participants, gave the movement formal structure by electing a 15-member provisional executive, the communiqué said.

Mother appeals to reduce son's sentence

RASHAYA, Lebanon (R) — The mother of a Lebanese jailed in Cyprus for eight years for smuggling arms appealed to the Cypriot government Sunday to reduce his sentence. "I plead with the Cypriot government to have mercy on my son and reduce the court's sentence to a minimum. My son did not commit any harm to the Cypriot government or people whom we respect," said Salma, the mother of Emile Alam Edin Ghazali. Ghazali was among six Lebanese convicted over an alleged plot to kill Lebanese army Commander Michel Aoun by shooting down his helicopter at Larnaca Airport in May. They pleaded guilty to smuggling two SAM-7 anti-aircraft missiles, Kalashnikov rifles, ammunition and grenades into Cyprus. "I ask the Cypriot government to allow me to visit my son Emile in prison and speak to him even if for a short period," said 60-year-old Salma Ghazali. She said she could not afford to travel to Cyprus and called on international organisations to help her.

Syrian air force determined to fight Israel

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria said Sunday its air force was more determined to fight Israel after a Syrian pilot flew his MiG-23 fighter to the Jewish state. "Treason by a traitor who was mobilised by the Israeli enemy would not affect the greatness of this force, its loyalty to the nation and its commitment to defend the Arab land," said the official Tishrin newspaper. "Syria, which is continuing its march to achieve strategic parity with the Zionist enemy is confident in its men and their high combat spirit," the Al Thawra daily said. The official newspaper praised Syria's air force on the eve of the force's 43rd anniversary. Syria said Saturday the pilot, whom it named as Bassam Al-Adl, flew to Israel at the end of a spying mission for the Jewish state. "The air force will celebrate its anniversary while it is more determined to continue its glorious march with a greater will for achieving victory," Al Thawra said. The papers said the air force will mark its anniversary by flying fighter jets over Damascus and other Syrian cities.

Ozal stresses importance of Turkey-EC ties

ANKARA (R) — Turkey's ties with the European Community (EC) carry more importance than an actual date for joining as a full member, Prime Minister Turgut Ozal has said. "The date is not important for us now. What is important is the continuation of relations with the EC. It is also important for the EC that Turkey is not cast aside and is given a green light," he told a news conference. Turkey, an associate EC member since 1963, applied for full membership in April 1987 and is expecting a reply from Brussels before the end of the year. "This is a political decision," Ozal said. "I believe the EC, and especially its more prominent members, must carefully consider the future world and Middle East relations and view Turkey's membership in that light." Parliamentarians from some EC countries have voiced objections to Turkey's membership, citing its shaky economy, patchy human rights record and Muslim identity.

Bulgaria, Turkey to discuss dispute

SOFIA (R) — Bulgaria has said it would hold talks with Turkey this month on the two countries' dispute over Bulgaria's ethnic Turkish minority. Deputy Foreign Minister Ivan Ganev told a news conference that the two foreign ministers, Petar Mladenov of Bulgaria and Mesut Yilmaz of Turkey, would meet in Kuwait on Oct. 30. The meeting has been arranged in response to a call from the Organisation of Islamic Conference for direct talks on the issue. Turkey has already agreed in principle to attend. Ankara wants a pact with Sofia over the future of Bulgaria's 1.5 million ethnic Turks and the property rights of 310,000 refugees who have fled to Turkey since mid-May.

British nurse suspected of espionage in Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq told British Energy Secretary John Wakeham Sunday that a detained British nurse and a British-based journalist also being held were suspected of spying.

A spokesman for Wakeham said he raised the cases of Daphne Parish, 45, who worked for a private hospital in Baghdad, and Farzat Bazof, a journalist for

Britain's Observer newspaper, during a meeting with Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz.

The spokesman told Reuters the two had not yet been charged "but Aziz did indicate that the nature of the case was one of espionage."

If tried and convicted on spying charges, both could face the death penalty.

Wakeham, the first British cabinet minister to visit Iraq since the August 1988 ceasefire ended fighting in the eight-year war with Iran, is attending an oil seminar in Baghdad.

Iraq told British last week that Parish was arrested on Sept. 19 in connection with the activities of Bazof, an Iranian living in Britain.

The Observer said last month Bazof covered elections in Iraq's Kurdistan region and then went to the Al-Iskandaria area south of Baghdad to investigate reports of a huge explosion.

Iraq denied British press reports quoting U.S. and Middle East sources as saying 700 people died in a blast at a military establishment. It said the explosion was at a petrol depot and 19 people were killed.

Wakeham's spokesman quoted Aziz as saying investigations into the case might take time but as soon as inquiries were complete Aziz would respect its obligations under international conventions.

These included granting British consular officials access to Parish which had so far been refused, the spokesman said.

Before meeting Aziz, Wakeham told a news conference: "We do not condone any breaking of the law and we do not wish to interfere in the internal matters of the Iraqi authorities, but we are concerned that a British citizen has the right of access to consular advice and if necessary to legal advice."

Wakeham earlier held talks with First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan and several other Iraqi ministers to discuss trade relations.

Paris conference sets up international group on Kurds

PARIS (R) — A Paris conference has decided to set up an international parliamentary committee to monitor the treatment of 30 million Kurds spread across five countries.

The two-day international conference, the first of its kind, passed a resolution to create the committee which would also lobby for a United Nations observer seat for the Kurds.

The unanimity on the final resolution contrasted with an earlier clash, when a pro-Iranian Kurdish leader stormed out, accusing the French government of caving in to pressure from Iraq.

Soviet human rights campaigner Andrei Sakharov, in a letter addressed to the more than 200 delegates from 26 countries, said the United Nations should be asked to hold a special General Assembly session to discuss the Kurds.

"All the cruelties and 'atrocities' committed in the past towards the Kurds should be condemned and measures should be taken to prevent them happening again in the future," Sakharov said in the letter, read out by his wife Yelena Bonner.

His call was adopted in the final resolution, along with a pledge to hold a second interna-

tional conference in Stockholm before July 1990.

The French secretary of state for humanitarian affairs, Bernard Kouchner, who chaired Sunday's session, said the conference had been difficult to organise and admitted some governments had protested.

"Our diplomats have received protests from certain governments concerned," he told Reuters.

Iraq, Iran and Turkey, where the majority of Kurds are concentrated, have their own Kurdish guerrilla groups fighting for an independent and united Kurdistan.

Turkey opposes U.S. Senate resolution on 'Armenian genocide'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Turkey's lobbyists, with some support from U.S. President George Bush's administration, are working furiously to drum up opposition to a Senate measure marking the "Armenian genocide" 75 years ago.

The resolution, introduced last month by Senate minority leader Bob Dole, a Republican, threatens to damage the close ties between Washington and Turkey, a NATO ally that hosts U.S. military bases.

"It is the most offensive thing that congress can do to U.S.-Turkish relations," said Daryal Bathay, the deputy chief of the Turkish embassy.

Passage of the measure could

seriously damage the future of the alliance, he said. It will be considered Tuesday by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

So concerned is the administration that Morton Abramowitz, the U.S. ambassador to Turkey, has contacted lawmakers about the issue, congressional officials said. Moreover, the White House wants to discuss the issue with Dole early this week, said a source who spoke on condition of anonymity.

In order to have the Judiciary Committee consider the resolution, Dole must have 50 co-sponsors, half of them Republicans. Several senators, including Patrick Leahy, a Democrat, and two Republicans, Strom Thurmond

and Bob Kasten, already have withdrawn their support, but others like Daniel Moynihan, a Democrat, have joined the group. Dole's staff said. By late Friday, Dole's office estimated 53 co-sponsors, roughly the same number as at the end of September.

The resolution, an emotional bombshell among Turks and Armenians, has put President Bush in a bind.

Although members of his administration oppose the measure, he said during the 1988 presidential campaign that the United States must acknowledge "the attempted genocide of the Armenian people in the last years

of the Ottoman Empire."

At the time, Bush said he knew the Republic of Turkey objected to the characterisation of the period between 1915 and 1923 as a "genocide." Some 1.5 million people were killed during that era.

Publicly, the administration has not taken a stand on the resolution. Martin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, said Bush had no position on the measure.

The administration of former President Ronald Reagan opposed such a resolution, and similar resolutions failed to win House approval three times during this decade.

The U.S. State Department said "history should be the judge" of whether the Armenians were the victims of genocide.

Dole said the measure would designate April 24, 1990, as the "national day of remembrance of the 75th anniversary of the genocide of 1915-1923."

It would show support for the 1 million U.S. residents of Armenian ancestry who were victims of the genocide, he said. In a letter to other senators, Dole said the resolution was prompted by his August visit to the Soviet Republic of Armenia to visit earthquake victims.

"And I can attest, from my own recent visit to Armenia, that the Armenian people feel real

friendship for the United States and our people," he said.

Both Dole and Sen. Pete Wilson, also a Republican, said they didn't want the resolution to be misunderstood as a slap at Turkey.

"I would also like to point that the resolution does not implicate the government of the Republic of Turkey in this terrible event," Wilson said. Wilson is running for governor in California, a state with a large population of Armenian descendants.

But Mike McNamara, a paid lobbyist for Turkey, said the Turks are furious about the issue. "The bottom line is they don't want to be compared to Hitler," he said.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE
12:30 Koran
13:00 Programme review
13:45 Children programmes
17:05 Sea Hunt
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Local programme
19:10 Agricultural programme
19:45 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Programme review
21:40 Local programme
23:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 Documentary
19:00 News in French
19:15 Aujourd'hui En Jordanie
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Paul Daniel's Magic Show
21:10 Supersense
22:00 News in English
22:20 Hunter

PRAYER TIMES

04:19 Fajr
05:36 Sunrise/Duha
11:21 Dhuhur
14:25 Asr
17:46 Maghreb
18:23 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Swedish, Tel. 810740.
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785, 685326.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terzianita Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543.
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772521.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Armenian International Church Tel. 685326.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 634932.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
Slight drop in temperatures is expected and some clouds appear at different altitudes. Winds will be westerly moderate fresh. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

AMMAN:
Dr. Nabil al Muhaseb 828252
Dr. Abdul Rahman Jabr 775050
Dr. Awar Musa Al Haj 771620
Dr. Abdul Hadi Tayyeh 620115
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdous pharmacy 782326
Al Asma pharmacy 657055
Nisrakah pharmacy 626672
Al Salom pharmacy 636730
Yusuf pharmacy 649445
Shamsiah pharmacy 676605

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Nabil al Muhaseb 828252
Dr. Abdul Rahman Jabr 775050
Dr. Awar Musa Al Haj 771620
Dr. Abdul Hadi Tayyeh 620115
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdous pharmacy 782326
Al Asma pharmacy 657055
Nisrakah pharmacy 626672
Al Salom pharmacy 636730
Yusuf pharmacy 649445
Shamsiah pharmacy 676605

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 771213
Highway Police 634022
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 615800
Police Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 771111
Jordan Radio 771111
Radio Jordan 771111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Husseini Medical Centre 8381332
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn. 642816
Atkhel Maternity, J. Amn. 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Muhar, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsiah 664714
Shamsiah Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Mushar Hospital 667279
The Islamic, Abdali 66612757
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646
Indian, Al-Muhaseb 771013
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 7751126
Army, Marka 8916115
Queen Alia Hospital 60224050
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarga Govt. Hospital (09)83323
Zarga National Hospital (09)91071
Bin Sana Hospital (09)986732
ERBIL:
Princess Batma Hospital (02)275535
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272225
Bin Al Nafes Hospital (02)247100

FOR THE TRAVELLER

Electric Power 636381
Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-53200

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
04:45 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
06:00 Damascus (RJ)
06:30 Jeddah (RJ)
08:15 Agaba (RJ)
08:30 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
09:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00 Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ)
10:45 Montreal, New York (RJ)
11:55 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
12:40 Tripoli (RJ)
12:55 Belgrade, Bucharest (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

10:20 Kuwait (KU)
12:20 Cairo (MS)
12:00 Moscow (SU)
12:25 Riyadh (SV)
12:35 Rome (

ELECTIONS '89

By Narmeen Murad

"LICENSED to elect" warning: Holders of lethal weapons such as guns, revolvers or pistols will be deemed, henceforth, law breakers until after the polling day, Nov. 8. The Ministry of Interior has issued regulations, in what is seen as a bid to circumvent any election mispact, stressing that "gunners" at large would face prosecution even if their guns were licensed or unloaded. Such a precaution is needed and lauded. Better still is to establish some sort of intrinsic self-restraints amongst citizens rather than direct generalised orders of that kind. Again, do we expect a ban on intellectual dialogue amongst would-be parliamentarians to dilute the possibilities of confrontations, be it intellectual or otherwise?

TOUJIAN Faisal, a prominent feminist and campaigner of human and children's rights, is running for the Circassian seat in Amman's Fifth District. In a single 5 by 2 advertisement in one of the local Arabic papers, she said she cannot publish all her election programme in the newspaper because she lacks the funds for a big campaign. The Jordan Times has learnt that a number of women, and men as well, are contemplating a fund-raising campaign to help Faisal. Good luck.

SOME formidable statistics on unemployment are spreading in the capital lately. According to a candidate, Sami Gassmo, who has made them his words of wisdom, the number of Jordanians looking for jobs will grow to 1,300,000 in the year 2000 from 566,000 in 1985. According to the candidate, who is running for the Christian seat in the Third District, Jordan will only be able to employ a maximum of 900,000 at that time.

ONE very interesting and sincere slogan by one of the candidates for the Circassian seat in the Third District of Amman promises, in addition to faithful representation, to "reform what is possible." This slogan, in my opinion, comes the closest to reality among many other slogans adopted by candidates. But then, the candidate describes himself as the "mashat" (elected leader) of the Circassians and probably his long experience — he is very old — has given him an edge over other enthusiastic candidates.

A CANDIDATE, who has been banned from running in the elections because he carries a two-year passport, says that the last time he saw his passport was a five-year document but then he hasn't seen his passport in 12 years.

AT NOON today the final list of candidates running for the elections will be revealed by the district governors. The Jordan Times wishes all the candidates the best of luck and may the best candidates win.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

SOVIET-JORDANIAN FRIENDSHIP DAYS: Soviet-Jordanian Friendship Days will open at the Al Hussein Youth City's Palace of Culture on Wednesday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent. The opening festival will be addressed by the president of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society, Bahjat Talhoum, and other notable members of well as the visiting deputy prime minister from the Soviet Republic of Latvia. A Soviet folkloric show, which includes Soviet national dances and songs will be presented as part of the performances. (Petra)

CANDIDATES BANNED FROM DELIVERING SERMONS: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Salem Masa'deh has sent a request to Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat to ban all candidates from delivering sermons or speeches in mosques from now until the end of the current election campaign. The request also called on the minister of Awqaf to prevent mosque preachers from promoting any of the candidates in their sermons. The minister of interior also issued an order prohibiting members of the public from carrying firearms until election day on Nov. 8. He said violators will risk having their weapons confiscated and will stand trial. (Petra)

SAUDI TEAM VISIT CDD: A team of Saudi Arabian Civil Defence officers Monday called at the Civil Defence Department (CDD) in Amman. They were briefed on the various duties of the department, and the first aid, fire-fighting and other operations carried out by civil defence men in Jordan. (Petra)

IRAQI-JORDANIAN COOPERATION: The implementation of an Iraqi-Jordanian agreement on cooperation in Islamic affairs was discussed at a meeting here Monday by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat and visiting Iraqi Awqaf Ministry undersecretary, Mohammed Sharif. The two officials reviewed Islamic affairs in general and ways of bolstering bilateral cooperation in religion-related affairs. (Petra)

OLIVE GATHERING IN IRBID: A meeting was held in Irbid Monday to discuss organising olive gathering later this month in the Irbid Governorate. Matters related to the work of olive presses and supervision by health authorities over their work as well as the health safety regulations to be observed, were discussed at the meeting chaired by Agriculture Department Director, Nouredin Shbouh. (Petra)

NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE AT NUZHA DISTRICT: A community centre was Monday opened at Nuzha District of Amman within the perimeter of a housing estate set up by the Urban Development Department (UDD). Department Director Hisham Al Zaghba inaugurated the centre which will provide child and family health care, vocational training for local women, initiate voluntary work by the local residents and take measures to safeguard a clean and pure environment, according to a UDD spokesman. (Petra)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by Fud Mimi and 'Ammar Khammash at Abdel Hamid Shoman Foundation's Scientific and Cultural Centre.
- ★ An Islamic book exhibition displaying a collection of books dealing with economic and literary matters related to Islam in addition to children's books, at the Yarmouk University.
- ★ A photographic exhibition depicting life as well as historical and archaeological places in Oman at the Yarmouk University.
- ★ An Italian photo exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre — 5:30 p.m.

FILM

- ★ A French film entitled "Family Meeting" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:30 p.m.

SEMINAR

- ★ A seminar on hereditary diseases at Abdel Hamid Shoman Foundation's Scientific and Cultural Centre — 6:30 p.m.

BAZAAR

- ★ A bazaar which includes religious and children's books in addition to embroideries and knitwear products, at Al Nuzha Community Centre.

Princess Basma returns from talks on launching IPPF-affiliated council

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma has attended a preparatory meeting in London to prepare for the establishment of a pan-Arab consultative council affiliated to the London-based International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).

The princess who returned to Amman following the one-day meeting, had served as representative of the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (QAF) in her capacity as the chairperson of the board of trustees, according to a QAF statement.

It said the meeting has elected Princess Basma to serve as head of a committee that will prepare for the consultative council's meeting which is scheduled for May 1990 in Amman.

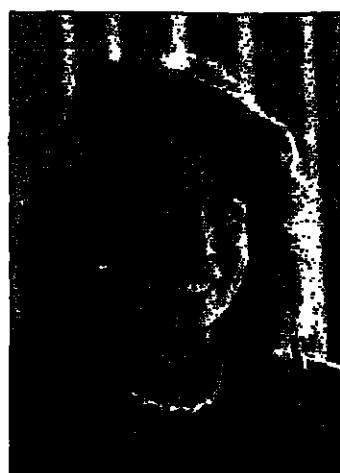
The QAF statement noted that the committee groups Dr. Jawad Anani, and Mr. Talal Abu Gha-

zaleh from Jordan, Dr. Suad Sabah and Dr. Hassan Ibrahim from Kuwait, Dr. Farida Alaqi from the Gulf states, Dr. Munsef Salameh from Tunisia and Dr. Hammoudah Hanafi who heads a regional Arab organisation on family planning.

The statement noted that the constituent meeting, which will be attended by prominent personalities from the Arab World, was expected to discuss a projected statute and plans of action to fulfil the federation's objectives.

The IPPF, founded in 1952, aims to initiate and support family planning services throughout the world, and to increase understanding of population problems.

It offers technical assistance and training, collaborates with other international organisations and provides information on all aspects of family planning.



HRH Princess Basma

According to the statement, the one-day meeting in London was attended by representatives of social and voluntary societies in the Arab World.

Computer 'timebomb' explodes but no 'big bang' in Jordan

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The computer timebomb which was set to explode Friday the 13th at the stroke of midnight appears to have done so but without causing too much damage to Jordan's computer users.

The technological timebomb was a computer "virus," a rogue programme called "Datacrime," which multiplies itself at a virulent rate, viciously lacking away at a computer's processing capability and destroying stored information when it is triggered.

"We got telephone calls from some 15 (the number is purely coincidental) customers that said they are having problems with their programmes," said an International Business Machines (IBM) dealer who chose anonymity. "We have asked them to bring in their computers but we don't think the damage was too great."

But in the international scene, particularly within the United States, the damage caused is reported to be substantial despite preventive measures. No definite figures are yet available, perhaps because financial institutions are reluctant to admit loss of precious records for obvious reasons.

The virus, which could also begin scrambling data into "electronic rubbish," after Oct. 13, is suspected to have hit many users using IBM or IBM-compatible computers but preventive action by some dealers avoided the loss of too much data, at least in Jordan.

"About 10 users said they had the virus," said Amjed Alweh, technical support supervisor at Special Systems Company. "But we solved the problems with no major damage," he added.

But Alweh expected more users to be infected by "Datacrime," which is believed to have originated in Holland, or other strains of viruses "because users keep exchanging software."

"If one is infected it spreads the virus," he explained. Exchanging floppy discs and unauthorised copying of discs is one of the main carriers of the "deadly" virus.

Another expert agreed, "every-one copies everything in Jordan which makes it more difficult to trace the infection."

Other dealers reported fewer infections. "We got one call from a customer but we still have no confirm it was a virus," Nabil Kawwa, service manager at General Computer Electronics Company, said Monday.

'Fast' action

There is not much time lost between the infection and the destruction" caused by the virus. A flash comes on the screen with the word "Datacrime," followed by a beep-beep and then, like some de-moed technological Woody Woodpecker, the virus would proceed to peck out vital parts of disc data.

Since March, more than a dozen versions have been found of the virus that is programmed to do its dirty work at 00:01 a.m. Friday.

Abweh said IBM had sent out an international alarm to its dealers and users, outlining preventive measures. "We gave free-of-charge anti-viral programmes to our major clients, who number about 15," Abweh said. "No major damage has been reported."

Anti-viral programmes scan a computer's software, looking for changes in programming codes that may signal the presence of the virus. Once the virus is detected, then the technical team comes in and saves the data.

"I feel like a crime-fighter or a ghostbuster," said an IBM technician who has been going around inspecting IBM systems in town. Major banks and hotels in the Kingdom have already taken precautions.

"We are protected," said an employee at the Amman Marriott Hotel a few hours before the virus was due to strike. "We have an anti-virus programme in our system."

Banks are more vulnerable since they are internally connected to networks. At least two banks in the country have the anti-virus scanning programme.

More to come

But some of anti-viral software has not reached all markets, according to Kawwa. "Each type of system has its own anti-viral software," International experts say that there are perhaps as many as 150 strains of viruses. "The most appreciated is the FU Manchu virus, programmed to add insults to the name of certain politicians when they are mentioned in computer texts," according to an expert quoted in the British press.

According to international experts, no anti-virus programme could be foolproof. "The Friday the 13th virus" — better known as the "Columbus Day virus" in the U.S. because it was due to be activated the day after the American nation-

al holiday — "is so clever that often the only sign you have that your disk is infected is when you notice you have no space left," said an international consultant quoted by Reuters.

Origins unknown

No one knows who is behind "Datacrime," but of course speculations are rife. Some U.S. military officials suggest that either a European group linked to West German extremists or a Norwegian group unhappy with the fame acquired by Christopher Columbus as the Discoverer of America, who is honoured on Columbus Day, could be behind the diabolical scheme.

Other experts believe that some software manufacturers, simply fed up with users copying their programmes, have incorporated the virus in selected programmes to infect pirated copies.

As one Jordanian user put it, "Now I am definitely scared to copy a friend's programme." At least one person has been deterred, if that was the aim of the master-minds behind the virus scheme.

Politics of course are never far away from any disaster, and computer viruses are no exception; another strain of virus lurking in computer networks in the United States is known as Jerusalem or PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation). Can anyone discern a political link there, just another block in the wall against the PLO, perhaps?

Escaping from the virus this year does not guarantee anything. It can get you next year. Rumours are already floating through the international computer community that yet another strain of "Datacrime" is on its way that will destroy all the data left untouched by the first virus.

So in order to avoid this dilemma experts suggest precautionary measures:

- Backup data files should be made;
- Computer should only use authorised programmes;
- Personal computers (PC) have key-lock options which prevent any other user from accessing programmes. This is perfect for the paranoid user who thinks everyone wants to destroy his programmes;
- Anti-viral programmes which could cost as little as \$25 according to a local dealer;
- And do not be generous and share floppy discs, one of the main means through which virus spreads.

UNESCO to sponsor two regional meetings in Amman on education

AMMAN (J.T.) — In the coming two months, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) will sponsor two conferences in Amman as part of the organisation's on-going endeavours to promote education in the Arab World, according to Dr. Mohammed Ibrahim Kazem, director of the organisation's regional office in Amman.

In the coming month a conference will be held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and with the participation of ministers of education, finance and planning in the Arab World to pave the way for the 1990 Education For All conference to be held under UNESCO's auspices in Bangkok, Thailand.

Kazem said in an interview with the Al Dustour Arabic daily newspaper.

There will be a general Arab conference on education and vocational training in Amman in December, also sponsored by the UNESCO office in Amman, to discuss ways by which the organisation can maintain its cooperation with governments in general education and training, Kazem added.

These meetings and others, he said, are largely designed to promote basic education for eradicating illiteracy in the Arab World by the year 2000.

Kazem noted that UNESCO has organised 16 major meetings in Amman since 1978, involving the participation of nearly 450 delegates from various Arab states.

In addition to organising pan-Arab meetings here, the UNESCO office provides technical advice to the Jordanian authorities on organising workshops, national seminars and other gatherings dealing with educational matters, Kazem noted.

He said that his office has completed several studies and field surveys in Jordan in cooperation with the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University, as well as the Institute of Public Administration.

UNESCO also continues the process of employing Jordanian experts in conducting its education programmes in the Arab World, Kazem said.

UNESCO also directs its attention to preserving the cultural and historic heritage in the Arab World particularly the holy places such as Jerusalem, Kazem said.

Jerusalem has a special cultural and religious importance for all religions and abounds with Islamic shrines, calling for continued attention and preservation, Kazem pointed out.

He said that the organisation recognises the rights of the Palestinians; and Palestine has an observer status at the UNESCO meetings until full recognition is given to Palestine in UNESCO's next meeting scheduled for September 1990.

In outlining the regional office's responsibilities, Kazem noted that the regional office here was established with the purpose of helping UNESCO's Arab member states carry out their efforts in promoting education.

It organises regional seminars and meetings, helps to develop educational services, enhances cooperation among Arab countries and conducts activities that benefit all UNESCO member nations.

UNESCO faces an immense task in the Arab World which is inhabited by 210 million, expected to rise to 281 million people by the end of the present century, Kazem noted.

He said that the fertility rate is considerably high in the Arab World, with exception of Tunisia, Lebanon and Egypt where family planning is in force to stem population growth.

Kazem blamed a number of factors such as fertility, migration and ill planning as causes for the present problems in the Arab countries, and quoted statistics as showing that more than half of the Arab World's population are now under 18 years of age requiring the provision of education, health and other essential services.

He said that even in poor Arab countries there are no plans to stem high population growth, and the problems are therefore bound to increase and aggravate.

Crown Prince visits armoured division

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday inspected the positions of the Fifth Royal Armoured Division and attended a ceremony marking the 20th anniversary of one of its units. After the speeches by commanders welcoming Prince Hassan, the troops presented a performance of martial arts

including Tae Kwon Do, target shooting, tug of war, and firing with light arms. Later the Crown Prince watched tank manoeuvres and received a gift from the commander of the units to commemorate the visit. Senior army officers attended the ceremony (Petra)

158,000 citizens benefit from SSC

AMMAN (Petra) — Since its establishment in 1980, the Social Security Corporation (SSC) has provided financial benefits to 158,000 citizens, 7,000 of whom now receive monthly pensions and 102,000 who received lump sum compensation at the end of their services, SSC Director General Mahdi Al Farhan announced Monday.

Nearly 49,000 citizens sustaining occupational injuries were also among the beneficiaries who were provided with treatment and wage compensation, the SSC chief told a press conference.

He said that a total of JD 52 million had been spent in compensation and treatment of all kinds.

Over the past 10 years, the SSC invested JD 297 million in a number of companies, shares, government bonds and hotels, of which JD 52 million were invested during last year alone.

Some of the investments went to the industry which is now absorbing more and more unemployed citizens, thus contributing

to solve the unemployment problem, Farhan noted.

Giving a breakdown of figures, Farhan said JD 57.5 million had been invested in industry and agriculture, JD 44 million in shareholding companies, including the Jordan Phosphates Mine Company, the Glass Factory, and the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company.

He said that investments totalling JD 9.5 million were made in companies providing services to the public, including the Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation, and local newspapers.

In the agricultural sector, the SSC invested JD 3.1 million, and JD 1.3 million have been depo-

sited in Jordanian banks.

The investments, he said, constitute a good source of income, augmenting the SSC's resources.

In addition, the SSC invested JD 21 million in housing projects, offering loans to companies such as the Jordan Public Transport Corporation, the Vocational Training Corporation and the Royal Scientific Society.

Farhan predicted that the coming years will witness an increase in SSC's commitments whereby the corporation will be required to pay more pensions to a larger number of citizens and in view of the fact that the number of beneficiaries who pay premiums increase by the year.

Farhan said that the total amount offered in compensation to the beneficiaries this year is far below the amount accruing from the SSC's investment.

He expressed satisfaction with the SSC's performance and predicted a very comfortable situation from now until well beyond the year 2000.

Seminar on diseases common to man and animal opens in Amman today

AMMAN (J.T.) — A three-day seminar on diseases common to man and animal affecting people in the Arab World opens here Tuesday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, with the participation of delegates from Arab and foreign countries.

According to the organisers a total of 50 working papers dealing with diseases, such as rabies, bilharzia and malaria, will be reviewed by the delegates from 20 different countries.

According to Dr. Yousef Omeish, chairman of a committee preparing for the meeting, the discussions aim to follow up and encourage studies on diseases common to man and animal in the Arab region and research designed to protect public health.

The participants are also expected to discuss the prospect of setting up a pan-Arab centre for research and studies in this field to be based in Amman.

The effect of common diseases on man and economic activities will be among the topics on the agenda, Omeish noted.

The meeting, organised in cooperation with the Higher Council for Science and Technology, is to be held at King Hussein Medical Centre's Farah Rehabilitation Centre.

Ministerial team visits Jordan Valley

SOUTH SHUNEH (Petra) — A three-member ministerial committee Monday made an inspection tour of the central part of the Jordan Valley, where they met with local officials and heads of various councils to discuss means of dealing with rodents and pests in their regions.

Local municipal councils are called on to take proper measures to ensure cleanliness and safeguard public and health safety within their regions, Minister of Water and Irrigation Mohammed Saleh Al Keilani said at a meeting with local officials at Shuneh.

He said local councils, in cooperation with concerned authorities, will have to deal with the causes of rodents and pests as well as damage and harm to crops and people.

The minister, who was accompanied on the tour by the other two members of a committee formed earlier upon the directives of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, said that natural manure used by the local farmers and the absence of proper pesticides to deal with the insects and other harmful pests in the region lie behind the danger.

The two other members are Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Youssef Hamdan and Minister of Agriculture Bassam Al Saker who together inspected work on the King Abdullah Canal which is

to provide water for the irrigation of nearly 37,000 dunams of land at the Hisban and Kafrein projects.

The three ministers heard a briefing by the director of the Water and Irrigation Department on the project.

Keilani announced to a meeting later that the Ministry of Water and Irrigation will shortly form three separate committees to work under the local governors to deal with the pests and rodents problem.

Keilani also announced that the Ministry of Water and Irrigation is keen on providing equal shares of water to all farmers and providing protection to all farmlands.

Cardiac diseases increase in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Cardiac diseases in Jordan are on the increase and they are now responsible for nearly seven per cent of all deaths in the country, up from one per cent in the 1950s, Health Minister Zuhair Malhas said Monday.

The minister was addressing the opening session of the first meeting by the Higher Committee for the Protection of Cardiac Diseases at the Health Ministry.

He said the committee was deemed necessary to deal with issues related to heart diseases and to provide advice to the public on means of protecting themselves from such danger.

Malhas, who is chairman of the

committee, said that heart diseases are among incommunicable diseases to which the Health Ministry is now directing its increased attention.

The committee aims to reduce the number of cardiac cases and eventually death rates, and to work out a broad policy as well as a national programme to help the public deal with this problem, Malhas noted.

"So far, there had been no plan by any organisation to reduce cardiac cases in the country and the committee, which has just embarked on its task, is hoped to promote national efforts in this respect," the minister noted.

Participants who represent various information services and the local press will be oriented on the harmful effects resulting from food which is unfit for human consumption.

According to Health Ministry sources, the programme entails presenting special lectures through radio and television and in community centres, schools and charitable societies.

Questions such as food poisoning and ways to protect the public from contaminated foodstuffs will be discussed.



Japanese envoy visits University of Jordan

AMMAN — Japanese Ambassador to Jordan Makoto Watanabe visited the University of Jordan Monday and met with its president, Mahmoud Al Samra, to discuss Japanese-Jordanian cooperation in scientific and cultural affairs. The ambassador is shortly to end his tour of duty in Amman, which began in April 1988 (J.T.)

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

جوردان تايمز يومية عربية سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times Advertising Department.

'Case celebre'

THE CASES brought to court by three aspirants to parliament seats whose nominations have been turned down to challenge the constitutionality of the Election Law of the land could go down in Jordan's jurisprudence as "case celebre". It will be noted that the trio are viewed as bedouins in the eyes of the said law and as eligible to submit their candidatures for elections only as such. The three contenders, on the other hand, regard themselves first, second and last as Jordanian citizens and residents of the areas where they have respectively submitted their candidatures. They also view themselves as nationals protected by the Constitution of the country which prohibits any form of discrimination on the basis of religion, ethnic origin or whatever.

It would be interesting to see how the court of first instance where the cases in question have been lodged will determine the important legal issues presented by them. It is unfortunate that the decisions of the said court cannot be appealed as the constitutional issues at bar require adjudication at the highest court of the country.

In point of law, the existing Election Law is archaic for providing for classification of Jordanians on the basis of religion, ethnic origin and bedouin origin. There is no modern system of law anywhere in the entire world which condones such distinctions. Moreover, Jordan is treaty obligated to remove such forms of distinction by virtue of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which it signed and ratified some ten years ago.

The entire country must be proud of the three Jordanians who will make legal history by presiding their legitimate complaints to a court of law. The country will be even prouder when the judiciary in Jordan will rectify the existing grave errors permeating the Election Law. For it is one thing to require candidates to submit their candidatures in areas where are legally domiciled, and it is quite another to accept or reject their requests on grounds which are clearly unconstitutional.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily said in its editorial Monday that Jordan's image before the world was well-projected by the Canadian leaders who have held talks with King Hussein and reflected this image in their statements. King Hussein was instrumental in presenting a bright Jordanian image to the Canadian leaders and public and also to all other countries he had visited over the past three decades, the paper noted. Indeed, the King has devoted his efforts to promote the cause of peace and to defend Arab rights at all forums, and on every occasion, the paper continued. His latest talks in Ottawa, which have focused on the rights of the Palestinian people in their own homeland succeeded in winning over the Canadian public opinion and that of the Canadian government, the paper noted. The King's endeavours to lay the foundation of peace and stability in the Middle East and his efforts to maintain the Kingdom's development process through cooperation with friendly nations have been appreciated by all the countries he had visited, said the paper. Jordanian people take pride in the world's appreciation of their leader, and will continue the efforts to present the country as a stable, peace loving, united and endeavouring to achieve security in the region, said the paper.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily notes in his column Monday that the Palestinian five-point plan presented to the United States represent the best response to the U.S.-Israeli moves to thwart the Arab Nation's endeavours to attain a just peace. Mahmud Rimawi says that the United States and Israel had wanted to impose their will on the other parties and to choose the delegation that would hold direct talks with the Israeli side, but nothing of this sort can be accepted by the Arabs in general and the Palestinians in particular. The projected Israeli-Palestinian dialogue and the ongoing U.S.-Palestinian dialogue should be employed to pave the way for a general conference that would lead to the establishment of lasting peace in the Middle East, otherwise no Arab party will be interested, the writer notes. He says no one is really interested to sit with killers and criminals who had been committing atrocities over the past four decades, and who want to impose their will on the Arab side. What the Arabs are interested in is a lasting peace that would ensure the full rights of the Palestinian people, the writer adds. Rimawi calls on the Palestinian leadership, now meeting in Baghdad to beware of the conspiracies and to adhere to the five-point plan and to reject any moves that would compromise the Palestinian people's rights.

Al Dustour daily carried a commentary Monday on the ongoing election campaign in Jordan in the run up to the Nov. 8 election day. The paper said that the candidates are called on to heed the King's message to them to act responsibly and to move away from any attempts to cause harm or calumny to the other candidates in their bid to win support from the voters. The paper said the Jordanian people have always been marked with high morals and ethics and can only support those candidates who adhere to the good and sublime principles and strive to serve the higher national interests. All those trying to serve the people through parliament should have noble objectives and should place the nation's interests above all other considerations, said the paper. It added that the Kingdom is still grappling with numerous problems and the future parliament is needed to help carry on the mission and maintain the process of construction and development.

Gorbachev's revolution in the balance

By Jonathan Steele

THE EXACT moment when President Gorbachev's revolution from above was overtaken by a revolution from below will be disputed by historians for a long time. Was it on March 26 when millions of people used the chance to express their real feelings about the party apparatus in the first semi-genuine nationwide election ever held here? Was it on July 13 when coal miners in the obscure town of Mezhdurechensk in Siberia refused to go down the pit, launching a wave of strikes which moved as far as the Ukraine and the Arctic? Or was it on Aug. 23 when almost half the adult population of the three Baltic republics joined hands to form a human chain of protest while the local Communist parties watched in silence?

In a sense the date is immaterial. Whenever it began — all agree that it was sometime this year — the result today is that after four and a half years of trying to mobilise and activate an apathetic population to support his reform programme, Mr. Gorbachev finds they have suddenly gone far out in front.

While Politburo conservatives like Yegor Ligachev demand that nothing be done to undermine the Communist Party's constitutionally guaranteed "leading role," anyone with their eyes open can see that the party is already desperately trying to follow, let alone catch up with public opinion. The bean which Mr. Gorbachev planted at the 19th party conference in June 1988, when he first proposed contested elections and forced his reluctant colleagues to accept the right of other groups to independent political activity, has burst forth into a towering stalk.

After 70 years of absolute power, the party's collapse into impotence is hard even for observers to take on board. But switch on any of the TV chat-shows and there go the talking heads relentlessly discussing whether and how the party can survive. This sort of thing was not just taboo until recently. It would have been irrelevant.

Many party stalwarts at the sharp end of such discussions react with alarm, panic, and in some cases a retreat into a pathetic inferiority complex. "I find it sick," whined a Central Committee member who works at an Tashkent aircraft factory during a

meeting with the Soviet leader. "During the first Congress of People's Deputies people went on for two hours heaping baseless criticisms on the party, and not a single party leader from the towns or regions came to its defence."

"All these informal movements have money, paper, and up-to-date printing facilities," complained another Central Committee man, a foreman at a Leningrad machine-building plant, "while workers can go for months without getting on television." He conveniently forgot the party's monopoly of mass circulation newspapers.

Even the normally cool prime minister, Nikolai Ryzhkov, joined the chorus three months ago. He complained of the "increasing de-ideologisation of society," and went on: "The entire course of current events shows that the party has lost its authority and the possibility of exerting an influence on everything taking place in society. Meanwhile, wittingly or unwittingly, we maintain the appearance that nothing extraordinary has happened and that the levers are still in our hands."

The threats facing the party are formidable and numerous. The central problem is the crushing weight of what is seen as its history of failure over the last 65, some would say 72 years. The elections in March turned into a vote of no confidence in the apparatus in many of the country's largest cities, from Moscow where Boris Yeltsin won, to Leningrad and Kiev where party leaders lost. The party apparatus is now faced with a repetition of that disaster in the elections to local government bodies which are due in two months' time, as well as in the elections in the 15 republics next February or March.

In the Baltic republics the apparatus's performance was even worse than in central Russia. The three Popular Fronts won a majority of candidates in every republic, and may have a clean sweep in the forthcoming polls. Although the Fronts include numerous party members, these people tend to win despite their party membership not because of it. Many of them joined the party for career reasons rather than conviction, because no one without a party card could expect promotion in the universities, the professions, or to fore-

man or manager status in enterprises.

The party leadership can take some comfort from the fact that the informal groups in central Russia are not as well organised as in the Baltics. But they are growing all the time. The miners' strikes have given a boost to grassroots trade union activism, and this too has begun to spread into the electoral arena.

Another major threat to the apparatus's rule is its increasing irrelevance. The Supreme Soviet, the full-time new parliament, is already becoming the centre of all legislative activity. Under the Gorbachev reform programme the government is subordinate to parliament, which demonstrated its independence and supremacy in the first week of its existence last June by rejecting several of the men the prime minister wanted to appoint as ministers. Anatoly Lukyanov, the vice-president and one of Gorbachev's closest confidantes, commented recently: "The party makes policy. Parliament has the power."

Under these circumstances, what is the function of the party's Central Committee? The point was well made during the recent Central Committee plenary meeting on the tangled problem of ethnic relations. The meeting was touted for months as the key to solving the crisis. In the event, it was a damp squib. The crucial decisions — on Soviet citizenship, immigration, language rights and economic devolution — will be taken by the Supreme Soviet and its democratically-elected counterparts in the republics.

When local government is put on the same basis at the end of this year, the role of the party apparatus will take a further knock. In theory the party can still exercise leadership by insisting that its members vote the party line. So far Gorbachev has not tried to demand this. Party members of the Supreme Soviet are subject to nothing like the Westminster whip, or even the looser disciplines of the United States Congress. They vote as free men and women, subject only to the right of grassroots recall from their electors.

If electoral revolt and constitutional irrelevance were the party's only challenges, it might be able to draw breath. But looming over the horizon comes the growing menace of public demands for a multi-party system. The experience of Poland and

Hungary, as well as the inherent logic of Gorbachev's support for pluralism, is pushing the discussion inexorably in that direction. It is a step-by-step process. The first demand is the pluralism within the party.

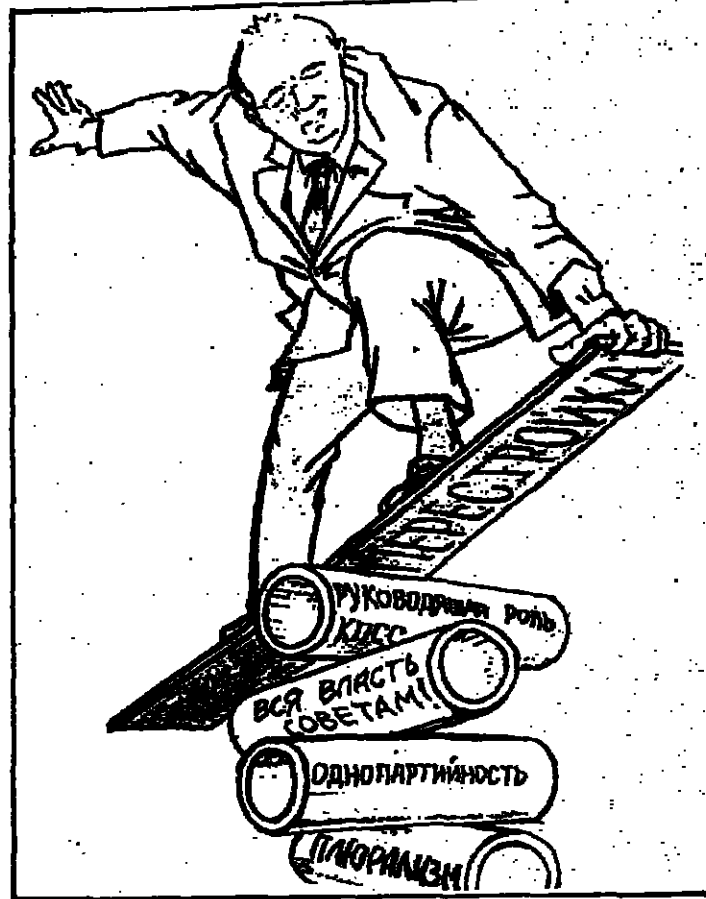
Party members in Moscow's informal clubs are circulating an appeal for a "Democratic platform in the Communist Party of the Soviet Union." It calls for an end to the ban on factions within the party and the introduction of contested elections at all levels of the party based on alternative manifestos. It also calls for lifting Article Six of the Constitution which enshrines the party's leading role.

Another sacred cow, the concept of democratic centralism within the party, is also coming under attack. It has long been a euphemism for top-down control under which very party branch is required to accept higher bodies' policies without question. Algis Brazdanas, the leader of the Lithuanian Communist Party, told the central committee last month that it was time to stress the democracy and drop the centralism.

The speed of the changes in the party's role has surprised everyone. It is little more than a year since Gorbachev first started the process of splitting the party from the government. The move was praised at the time as a long overdue bomb under the old practice of bureaucratic duplication, in which the party apparatus had departments which "shadowed" or supervised the work of government and local authorities. On a recent television discussion one party intellectual pointed out that the move was nonsense, except as a transitional step towards a multi-party system.

"In every Western country the whole point is that parties try to become the government. Here we praise ourselves for getting the party out of government," he commented.

Gorbachev is trying to keep up with the tide of anti-party feeling by redefining what the party is supposed to do. He told a party audience in Kiev last month: "The party remains the main organising and co-ordinating force capable of leading people towards socialist renewal. It plays an integrating and consolidating role in society." His idea seems to be that party members should be a team of like-minded people, who maintain their authority



Gorbachev's predicament as seen in the Soviet press. Perestroika, on which he stands, is rocked by the conflicting cries of 'The governing role of the Communist Party', 'All power to the Soviets!', 'One party state', 'Pluralism', 'Soviet Unity', and 'Federation'.

through hard work, good ideas, and honesty rather than through official status.

The conservatives disagree. Yegor Ligachev, their leading spokesman, directly contradicted Gorbachev at last month's Central Committee meeting when he said: "The issue is to strengthen the leading role of the party, not just its co-ordinating one. Proposals to limit our party's functions and even to deprive it completely of some of them are not new. They aim to dismiss Communists from the leadership of society."

As the debate rages, Gorbachev seems increasingly on the defensive. He has begun to talk of the party as though it were a dyke holding back a rising tide of anarchy. Apres le parti, le déluge. "The party is there to prevent any undesirable and dramatic development of events," he said in Kiev. The events of the last year have shown how fragile Soviet society is. What holds it together? Not language, nor a common culture, nor a shared

record in history, now that the record of the last 70 years is under general attack. The older generation finds its values under threat. The young accuse it of being cowards or fools for putting up with Stalinism so long.

In this vacuum of alternative ties, Gorbachev sees the party as the only glue which still survives. The difficulty is that the party is by no means united. It reflects as wide a spectrum of conflicting views and attitudes as the public at large.

However hard Gorbachev tries to prevent it, the logic of pluralism, the model of Poland, and the rapid pace of events are all driving the party towards a formal split. Alarmed by the novelty of the situation, even some party progressives feel they should curb their desire for a multi-party system, at least for the next year or two. Otherwise, they fear, the danger of a conservative backlash at the top of the party may become too strong — The Guardian.

Economic reforms allow Chinese resurgence in Vietnam

By John Pomfret
The Associated Press

HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam — On March 24, 1978, students and soldiers burst into Tran Tuan Thi's factories, ordered them closed and confiscated all his goods in the name of the Socialist transformation of South Vietnam.

Now, more than a decade after being impoverished, Tran heads a private savings and loan association and runs a chicken farm, food processing plant and six groceries.

Tran is an ethnic Chinese. His comeback epitomises Vietnam's new attitude towards its Chinese minority, the most dynamic group in Vietnam.

Eleven years ago, uniformed men battered down doors and dragged away shopkeepers throughout the capital city's Chinese quarter, arresting thousands as the Communist government of the north imposed its

ideology on the freewheeling, newly conquered south.

The brutal policy left the Chinese community in ruins and proved a factor in the deteriorating relationship between China and Vietnam, which fought a brief border war in 1979.

Tens of thousands of Chinese began an exodus that came to be known as the Vietnamese boat people tragedy. Vietnamese government officials got rich on the ordeal, demanding bribes for safe passage to port towns in the south. To this day, many of the escapees languish in refugee camps around Asia.

Now the government, faced with rising poverty and falling production, has appealed to the Chinese community for help.

Chinese have been coming to Vietnam since the 3rd century B.C. China ruled Vietnam for 900 years of the two millennia since then. At other times, defeated Chinese armies, criminals, starving peasants, and persecuted

monks have made their way to Vietnam in search of a livelihood.

At present, about 400,000 ethnic Chinese live in Ho Chi Minh City, mostly in the suburb of Cholon. Estimates of the numbers of Chinese nationwide vary from 600,000 to 1 million.

"Our recent treatment of the Chinese has not always been completely perfect," acknowledges Nghi Doan, the chairman of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City's 5th district, which includes Cholon. "But now we are even accepting that their businesses will undertake a certain level of exploitation, as long as it benefits production."

These are bold words for a dedicated Communist. Nghi, himself an ethnic Chinese, has belonged to the party for 43 of his 61 years. During the Vietnam war, he worked underground against the South Vietnamese government and the United States.

In some cases, confiscated

property has been returned. Early this year, businessmen were allowed to open private banks. An ad hoc stock market sprang up among Chinese traders. Officials turn a blind eye to the black market. And large, privately owned factories are encouraged.

Even tycoons such as Ly Sen, an ethnic Chinese named one of South Vietnam's three "super capitalists" in a 1975 show trial, have been freed from prison and urged to offer their expertise to Vietnam's development.

"The communes are our slaves now. They need us more than we need them," said one Chinese merchant, who learned his colloquial English from the U.S. soldiers who were his customers during the war. "If they go after us this time, they know we won't care. We've already lost everything once."

But the reforms have not entirely mollified the Chinese. Chairman Nghi estimates that production for District 5 has yet

to reach half of what it was during the war years, when little factories, bars and restaurants served an international clientele of American troops and Southeast Asian businessmen.

Chinese community leaders estimate that tens of thousands still want to leave Vietnam. And many Chinese businessmen say they are worried about government policies swinging back again.

"I'm not doing anything big right now," said the Chinese merchant. "I don't know when big boss is going to crack down. Most of us are just watching."

Some, like Tran Tuan Thi, are going full steam ahead. Several years ago, as the reform policies began, Tran scraped together some capital and started a food processing factory. Next he rented out storefronts to sell his goods.

Impressed, the government contacted Tran and offered him land to start a chicken farm. Tran leaped at the chance for a joint venture with the state, selling meat and other products at his stores.

"I've got a lot of guts," he said. "But I also figured the more I work with the government, the less chance there is of them taking things away from me."

Six months ago, Tran started a private bank: New City Savings and Loan Association. With Ly Sen, a leading banker during the war, he amassed hundreds of thousands of dollars in invest-

ments. Loans are made at 8 to 10 per cent a month, and deposits pay 7 per cent a month, compounded quarterly, or 125 per cent a year, Ly says.

The rates, which battle Vietnam's annual inflation of at least 30 per cent, are higher than the government's monthly rate of 5 per cent for deposits and 8 per cent for loans.

Explaining their success, Ly smiles and runs his hand through his bristly white hair.

"They trust us, they trust me. I've been a banker all my life so they have confidence," he says. Another reason is that customers can withdraw their money freely. State banks demand reasons, and often substantial bribes, to approve withdrawals.

Ly's son and daughter escaped to the United States as boat people. His wife left several months before he was freed in 1987, after 12 years in jail.

"None of them could wait, and I don't blame them," he said. Despite the reforms, he still hopes to depart.

"I'm an old man and miss my family," says the 64-year-old. "I was once part of this country's future, but now I'm part of its past."

Chairman Nghi hopes men such as Ly Sen will stay. "But we understand because they are worried someone will label them a stinking capitalist again," he said. "I don't think it will happen."

OPEN FORUM

Stop the nonsense

RECENTLY I have been watching the late shows on Jordan Television. Unluckily, they all have vicious violence: guns, revenge, murders etc. Because of the drastic influence on the tube watchers of such movies, the West, for example, have already started to reduce producing these types of movies. Why don't we stop importing these shows too? A local saying goes: "Close the path through which wind comes". This might be a poor translation, but the point is, if the great nations are trying now to reduce the impact of TV shows on people by producing less and less of these movies, we should adopt this trend too.

I am not getting on anybody's case, I hope, but the people who are responsible for buying those movies are my only concern. And I have a word for them:

"Our national TV is watched by millions of people in our region. And if we want to stop the use of guns at weddings for example, we should stop broadcasting those shows on our screens too."

I think that those movies are bought or leased because they have no big market in their own countries. Producers of such movies find it easier to sell them abroad because of less criticism. A good question arises — Why should we be the scapegoats?

Nari N. Togan

By Ian I. Mitroff

LOS ANGELES — I believe that television demeans and trivialises everything and everyone connected with it, that in short it is responsible for the downfall of civilisation.

We are in the midst of a new Dark Age. This one, however, has been brought about, paradoxically enough, not by the suppression of knowledge and information but by their dazzling assault on our senses. The result has been nothing short of catastrophic.

For all practical purposes, everything in American society has become a branch of entertainment: business, news, politics, religion, you name it. Why? When people can no longer make sense of their world because of (a) its sheer complexity and (b) the overwhelming volume of supposed "information" with which we are bombarded daily, from the arcane and esoteric to the trilling and trivial, then they will seek coherence elsewhere. They find it in the endless pursuit of nonstop, disconnected sights, sounds, images and pleasing personalities that pretend to offer them the pretense of coherence.

We no longer prefer to confront reality directly, for long ago we learned and accepted the fact

that reality has for all practical purposes become unmanageable. Instead we have turned our energies to the proliferation and production of endless amounts of unreality to soothe our tired and fractured egos.

Television is, of course, the prime culprit, for it has become the model for everything in our society. Everything now either imitates or caricatures television as television itself caricatures and imitates everything else.

We have newspapers, magazines and even "books" in the form of television screens or television reality. Thus, USA Today, the newspaper, is a simulation of "TV news" that is itself a simulation of "real news." And "USA Today on TV" is a simulation of USA Today, the newspaper. At each step in the chain we recede further from reality. And each step heightens a felt sense of unreality.

Television is particularly insidious, for it is the very background, the very oxygen of our new world. It is wrong, dangerously so, to think that television is merely a harmless, trivial simulation of reality. It has become both a simulation of reality and reality itself.

There is in fact no reality any more. It's all artifact. We have so thoroughly merged symbols, in-

formation and entertainment that few of us can distinguish between them.

Television has not only distorted our ability to deal with complexity; it also may have altered irreversibly our desire to confront reality. Donahue, Geraldo and Oprah are no longer merely caricatures of "truth" or "journalism." They are no longer merely filters or portrayals of reality. They have become the "new reality."

A law of 20th century communication has become evident: The length of a sound bite is inversely proportional to the complexity of the world and the overload of information to which we are exposed. Columnist George Will summarised it best when he noted that if Lincoln were alive today "he would be forced to say, 'Read my lips: No more slavery.'"

This is the level to which America's national discourse has descended. This is the promise of the mass media. As Paddy Chayefsky once said, "Television is democracy at its ugliest." And as Fred Friendly remarked, "There is no incentive for television to do its best when it can make so much money by doing its worst."

Given the contempt with which I hold television, why would I

want to appear on it to promote a new book that deals with its perverse effects? I have no easy answer. I struggle daily to find one. The best that I have been able to come up with is that I believe strongly that there is a deep, unsatisfied hunger on the part of the American people for something better, for something that speaks directly to our constant search for meaning on the basic issues of life itself.

This hunger can never fully be extinguished by the media powers that be. I believe in speaking as directly to that hunger as I can, although I have no illusions whatsoever with regard to changing the odious system that governs the airwaves.

There are pockets of the public which hunger for something far better than the media moguls give us. In fact, I think there is another quasi-law that describes our current situation: The hunger for something better is directly proportional to the constant banality that we are fed.

The writer, professor of business policy and director of the Centre for Crisis Management at the University of Southern California, is co-author of "The Unreality Industry." His article is reprinted from the Los Angeles Times.

Looking out for the small fish

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — As Jordanian governmental and non-governmental agencies alike step up efforts to make Jordan more independent of agricultural imports, those involved in fish farming in the Kingdom are also seeking to increase their output and lessen the country's dependence on food imports.

Although fish farming was first introduced in the Kingdom in the 1960's, the business has not had the kind of success many expected simply because all too often the cost of the operations have outstripped their earnings, according to many in the industry.

As part of an effort to encourage fish farmers to adopt new techniques and promote new marketing strategies, the Near East Foundation (NEF), in cooperation with the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO), has taken the lead in assisting in the development of fish "culture" in Jordan.

Although the NEF had traditionally been involved in various aspects of community development and occasionally in agricultural development, it is the first time it gets involved in fish farming.

Aquaculturist Dr. Randall Brummett of the NEF launched his efforts with a 12-week fish farming instruction course attended by a group of 12 farmers in 1986. Since then, Brummett, in cooperation with Hussein Bitar of the JCO, one of a dozen Jordanians educated and trained in fish farming, have assisted over 25 enterprises with feasibility studies, promotion, marketing and management as well as design and construction.

As a direct result of their efforts 70 tonnes of Jordanian-grown tilapia fish were put on the market in 1988. It was estimated that the potential production in 1989 could be as high as 450 tonnes. That is little when compared to Jordan's annual consumption of 7,000 tonnes, half of it fresh. The estimated production of fish in 1989 is between 60 and 65 tonnes.

The decrease in production this year is due to the closure of one of Jordan's largest fish farms which had an estimated annual capacity of 200-200 tonnes. The closure of the farm was seen as a sign of bad planning, lack of proper marketing and most of all bad management.

An associate professor at the University of Jordan, marine biologist/ecologist Mohammad Wabbeh believes that the failure

to increase fish production in Jordan has reasons beyond management shortcomings.

"Management is of course important but the basic regulations of fish farming are not always being followed," said Wabbeh. You have several prerequisites for fish farming: ample/good quality water, knowledge by the farmer of the particular biology of the fish being raised, hatching techniques etc, live food production, the ability to identify fish diseases and knowledge of how to deal with them, experience in farming food formula (lipids/fibres etc) and constant maintenance."

High risk factors

Wabbeh insists that fish farming has high-risk factors "and thus the prerequisites should be followed to increase the chances of success. "People" are getting into fish farming without any deliberations. They don't bother to qualify themselves for their projects," he says.

Like those who want to construct a building with only a basic knowledge of a few engineering rules, fish farmers without an extensive background on the subject are likely to face problems. "They don't have to have doctorates but a degree would certainly help," according to Wabbeh. "Dr. Brummett is giving some courses at the university but the department has to introduce a series of courses which will give students more than just an idea about fish farming."

Brummett and Bitar are aware of the obstacles that Wabbeh points out but say that it is not always easy to convince those who want to invest major capital in fish farming to get a degree in aquaculture first.

"We give some lectures and courses instead, and we try to be on-location consultants," Brummett says. "For now, that is what we can reasonably do. We are not going to tell those who are already in the business to stop."

There has been some progress in the joint NEF/JCO ventures with middle- and upper-level farmers who fish farm from March 21 to Nov. 15 every year, Brummett says. The smaller farmers have been left out of the "general scheme of things."

Failure to involve poorer farmers means that many of the benefits of fish farming, the most important of which is diversification of small agricultural enterprises, will not be realised.

The need to diversify has many benefits. According to Brummett, diversification would "insu-

late" poorer farmers from "violent" price fluctuations on the one hand while acting as "a flood and erosion control mechanism if need be" on the other.

The NEF and JCO have conducted a pilot study on potential small scale integration of aquaculture/agriculture extension possibilities.

Small farming enterprises in Jordan are often dependent on one of several government-sponsored irrigation projects, which could be modified to provide water for fish culture without affecting the farmer's water bill significantly, according to Brummett.

Two locations have thus far been chosen to implement the integrated aquaculture/agriculture formula. One is a poor rural community in which five small earthen ponds may replace part of several non-profitable vegetable-growing areas, while the other is 10 irrigation reservoirs into which cages for fish rearing could be integrated.

The first is a village inhabited by 360 Beni Hassan bedouins north of the Zarka River, 50 kilometres north of Amman. Although the villagers graze sheep, goats and grow vegetables on small plots of land, the output does not provide sufficient income for even a small family. Consequently, many of the farmers are trying to sell their farms and move to Jerash or Zarka where the job market is already growing smaller. According to Brummett, land prices are declining and owners cannot afford to release family land at a low price. As a result, a lot of the land in Quneish is non-productive.

Brummett and Bitar believe that integrating small fish into the small vegetable plots may be a way to enhance their profitability. They point out that by using little water and compost and left-overs fish farming could easily be integrated into small profitable farming establishments. Five farms have been chosen to implement the formula.

"By using manure as fertiliser in a small pond of 650 square metres one might expect to harvest some 162.5 kilograms twice per year. At the current market price of JD 1.5 per kilogram, this harvest represents about JD 500 of which JD 230 would be netted by a farmer doing his management. This represents 3.3 months' salary for the average fulltime labourer making JD 70 per month," Brummett says.

The second location for the NEF/JCO project is central Jordan Valley.

Land owners and farmers in

the Jordan Valley have traditionally built small irrigation ponds to hold water since access to a system of wells and canals through which the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) provides irrigation water to the farmers is limited to two or three days a week. These irrigation ponds vary a great deal in size, but average about 600 square metres with an average depth of two or three metres, according to Brummett.

The plan is to provide cages for the small water reservoirs in which fish can be grown with no additional water cost and the food provided to the fish will increase the nutrient content of the water thereby saving fertilisation costs, Brummett says.

Five year plans

A minimum time span for a fish farming investment to start paying off is five years under normal circumstances, says Bitar, who has been involved in fish farming for the last ten years.

"Throughout I have done my best, along with people like Brummett, to assist local fish farmers with their technical needs. Of course they vary from one project to another, depending on the size of the project."

One of the problems that exist at the present time according to Bitar is that there are just a few people who have an educational background in the fish farming field and most of them are sitting behind a desk.

There are an estimated 25 fish farmers in Jordan, all of whom need advice and assistance on a daily basis, Bitar says.

Although Brummett has been giving courses in fish culture at the department of agriculture at the University of Jordan in the hope that this would increase the awareness and expertise of Jordanian agriculturists in the field, he expects it will be some time before they can actually practice what they have learned. "After they graduate, most of them serve the military for two years and by the time they finish a lot of their know-how has faded," he says.

Although both Brummett and Bitar have been busy training the workers who run the fish farms, this is not always seen by them as efficient long term planning. Training the workers at the fish farms can be extremely frustrating, says Brummett, simply because most of them are Egyptians who have no longterm plans to stay in Jordan. Thus, as far as Jordan's aquaculture is concerned, once the Egyptian worker goes whatever he has learned

goes with him.

Jordanians working in fish farming are concerned, Brummett suggests, could do with more aligned management. "Some of the people involved seem to think that they can fish farm by remote control. If you have a fish farm in Azraq then the manager has to be in Azraq and not in Amman."

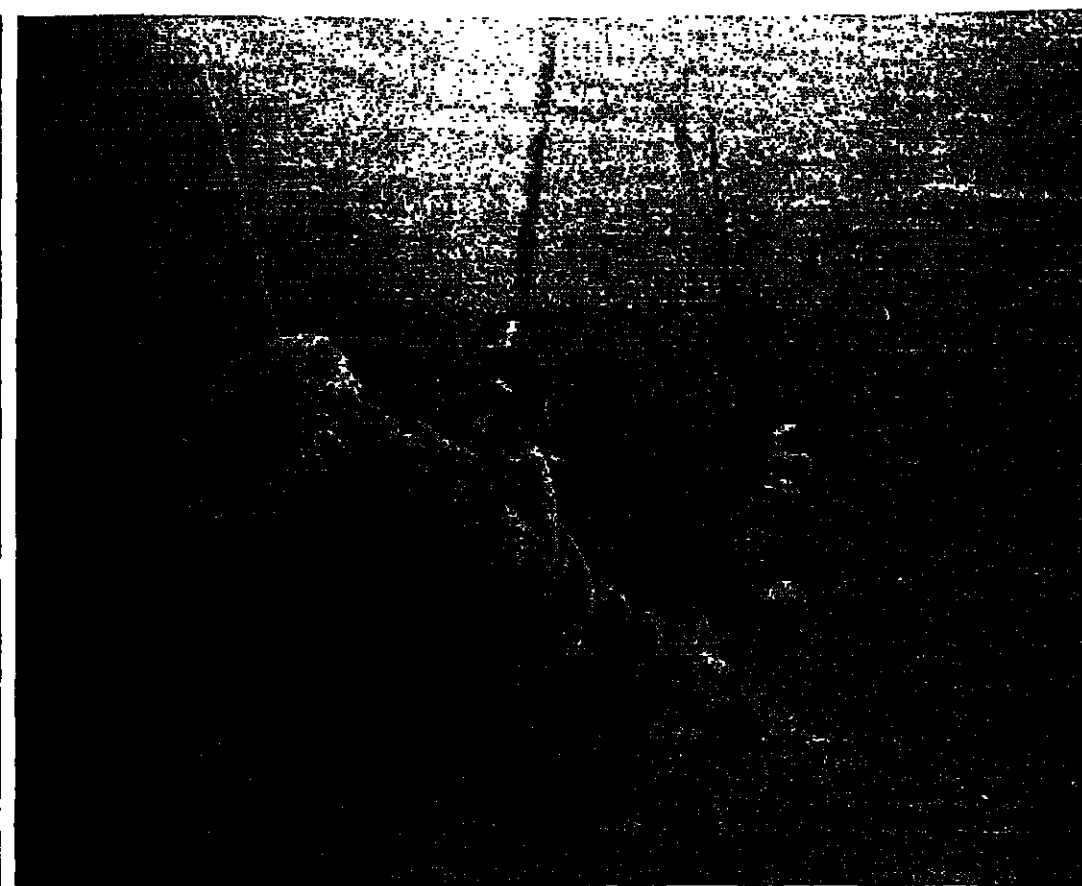
Although Brummett sees government steps to encourage agriculturists as positive, he says farmers themselves are not well organised enough to "get the show on the road", he says "they need constant advice and guidance."

"There seems to be no systematic project planning, which tends to be a reason for the often tremendous financial losses. People want large-scale operations — fast — and are not necessarily ready to deal with the financial consequences of these large scale projects. When we provide the farmer with project development studies, which is frequent our suggestions are not followed, but when the project starts losing money the farmer comes back to us and says 'help'."

Bitar explains that the higher the intensity of the farming the costlier it will be. The likelihood that lower intensity farms will be more successful are great since the fish product is healthier and thus more natural.

He explains why tilapia is more frequently raised in this part of the world than any other type. "Tilapia is a bone-free firm fleshed fillet which thrives in warm water with varying degrees of salinity. Rapid reproduction and weight gain give farmers a quick return on their investment, thus they are ideally suited for farming in Jordan."

Wabbeh on the other hand is conducting an experiment at the Aqaba marine science station which aims at protecting marine wildlife, but he raises fresh fish — the loach — on the side. "It's a small scale experiment, we produce about 1 1/2 tonnes. We are not commercial, however if all the prerequisites are met then we could become commercial. Our price is very competitive. Our conversion rate is 1.7 kilos of fish feed for a 1 kilogramme fish in Europe, which is a big consumer of loach, the conversion rate is 2.4 kilos per kilo. We sell our fish to a restaurant in Aqaba for JD 5 per kilo in Italy the price is over JD 13 and in France over 10. We have the ability to produce for our consumption and eventually for export, but we must create a qualified fish farming community first."



The Mauritius testifies to the maritime history of commerce of the Europeans in the Far East at the beginning of the 17th century.

The 'Mauritius' history in the depths

By Jocelyne Dumont

EVERYTHING is remarkable in this story which begins in 1609, with the last voyage of a vessel of the Dutch East India Company and ends with the exhibition at the Maritime Museum in Paris, presenting ten cannons, a bronze bell, bars of zinc and pieces of Chinese porcelain.

On 19th March 1609, the "Mauritius" hit a sandbank off Gabon and sank. Since then, it has lain there for three centuries, till Elf-Gabon, a subsidiary of Elf-Aquitaine chanced upon an underwater mound 50 metres long and 20 metres wide in spring 1985, while prospecting for oil. The mound turned out to be the buried remains of the oldest V.O.C. (Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie) ship found so far.

Not only is this discovery of capital interest, but the means implemented in record time for its excavation are also remarkable. Thanks to the proximity of a work-site, a considerable amount of oil-prospecting equipment was made available with an off-shore barge fitted with two air-conditioned life-support chambers, a

storage container, a reservoir for desalinating material, a compressor for supply aqualungs, a crane, a tug, a helicopter, etc...

Thanks to this equipment, the scientific exploration of the wreck was successfully carried out in three months, in 1986, by some fifteen archaeologists from the Underwater Archaeological Research Department of the French Ministry of Culture. On the score of underwater engineering, oil prospecting and archaeology go together well.

At a depth of ten metres and in the same current which sank the "Mauritius", before bringing up the remains the excavation team took note of the cannons, sampled the bars of zinc, indicated the site with markers and took photos in order to enable the archaeologists to reconstruct the history of one of those long-distance vessels which opened up the route to India for Europe.

As soon as any metal items are taken out of the water, they undergo a process of electrolysis in order to fight the effects of corrosion.

Laboratory analyses and research in archives provide the necessary elements to go back in time. For the first time, samples from the hull provide evidence of the construction techniques in shipyards in the north of Holland in the early days of navigation in the Far-East. The external structure was first built in oak. This was then strengthened by sheets of lead and then covered with a protective lining of pine.

The cargo of the "Mauritius" is typical of the period. The major freight consisted of spices, and in particular pepper, of which three different kinds were found in the wreck. There were also 120 tonnes of zinc in the form of flat, round ingots from China. This precious metal, used in alchemy, pharmacology and industry (for manufacturing metal tableware) was only to be produced in Europe a century later. This reveals how China was far ahead in the field of metallurgy.

Fragments of items in blue China, once again from the land of the rising sun, announce the beginning of the introduction, in Europe, of a luxury merchandise which was to be very popular with the middle classes.

The artillery found on board only represents a small part of what this kind of vessel usually carried, but it is very varied with iron, cast iron and bronze Dutch cannons as arms, and Portuguese and English guns probably acting as ballast on the ship.

The "Mauritius" bears witness to the whole history of European trade with the Far East and particularly to the power of the Dutch, English and French India Companies which plied the major part of this trade for two centuries.

In the 18th century, the V.O.C. (founded in 1602 and dissolved in 1795) sent about thirty ships every year on the India route, the East India Company (established from 1600 to 1858) sent twenty and the French "Compagnie Francaise" (active from 1664 to 1769) sent about a dozen.

These companies, which were naval, commercial and financial powers, were the first multinationals. They held a real monopoly on trade with Asia. On the outward journey, the ships carried food, spirits and woollen fabrics and, on the return trip, they brought back textiles (cotton and silk), spices (400 tonnes on average in French cargo vessels), wood used for dyeing, porcelain and small shells collected on the shores of India and used for bartering in the negro slave trade.

All this history lay in the depths for nearly four centuries. Thanks to the dramatic ending of this story, we now have access to it. This is a paradox which shows that it is perhaps better for a ship to be wrecked on a sandbank than to end up beneath the sea in the depths of the waters and from the depths of memory are its greatest glory! — French features.

Ethiopian city booms despite civil war and drought

By Robert Powell
Reuter

ASMARA, Ethiopia — The civil war has dragged on for longer than most people can remember and drought has devastated the surrounding countryside, but the economy of Ethiopia's second largest city is booming.

"Cement costs twice the official price on the black market, but lots of people are putting up new buildings," one resident of Asmara, capital of Ethiopia's northern province of Eritrea, says.

The shops are full of imported goods unseen in the capital Addis Ababa. Visitors from other parts of Ethiopia stock up on matches, which are in short supply else-

where in this east African country.

Although severe drought is likely to make half of Eritrea's three million people dependent on food aid next year, business in this elegant city of tree-lined avenues and Italian villas has never been better.

Private businessmen once shunned by Ethiopia's pro-Soviet government are now officially encouraged to expand their factories and open new ones. Many are rising to the challenge.

Ironically, the civil war which has sapped Eritrea's rural economy for the past 28 years is largely responsible for the current boom in Asmara.

Tens of thousands of young men have fled abroad to escape political persecution, limited economic opportunities and conscription by the Ethiopian army or the rebel Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF).

From their new homes in Italy, which ruled Eritrea as a colony from 1889 to 1941, and the Arab Gulf states, they send money home.

Not all is transferred through legal channels. Smuggling is rife and foreign earnings are often remitted in the form of goods.

Some imports are shipped legally through the "Francovallata" system, whereby the importer provides his own foreign ex-

change, no questions asked, and some arrive illegally on donkeys from Saudi Arabia and North Yemen across the Red Sea.

Asked how he obtained his packets of Kenyan tea and Indian henna dye, an Asmara shopkeeper smiled and replied: "That is the secret of business."

His wares need a market and most Eritreans are peasant farmers with little or no spare cash to buy consumer goods.

But one third of the Ethiopian army is stationed in Eritrea — more than 100,000 troops according to diplomatic estimates — and their wages provide a valuable cash input to the local economy. "We got a contract to provide

bread for the army and they paid on time. It was great," the owner of one local bakery said.

The army is fighting the EPLF, a rebel movement seeking independence for Eritrea, or at the very least, restoration of the autonomy which it enjoyed in the 1950s.

Following a series of government defeats over the past two years, which gave the EPLF control of all of northern and western Eritrea, there are more troops in Eritrea than ever.

There was an influx of soldiers from the eastern Ogaden region after Ethiopia signed a peace agreement with Somalia in April 1988 to defuse a long-running

border dispute.

Everything to the war front

Most troops ride in olive green military trucks provided by Ethiopia's main ally, the Soviet Union, but many fill the backs of red-painted Italian trucks requisitioned from private traders under President Mengistu Haile Mariam's maxim: "Everything to the war front."

The front itself has been remarkably quiet for the last six months, with the EPLF reporting isolated skirmishes in Southern Eritrea and the government odd attacks on road transport."

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JORDAN MARKET PLACE

Wall Street stocks rebound after initial fall

NEW YORK (R) — Wall Street stocks rebounded Monday, dispelling fears of a repeat of the black Monday crash of October 1987, after a wild first hour of trading that saw the main index plummet 64 points.

The Dow Jones industrial average at first sagged on carryover selling from Friday's frantic 190-point plunge that was its second-worst point decline. Heavy selling abroad made for a tense opening and buy orders were scarce. But then the market surged to a 29-point gain, only to

Reserve and the Securities Exchange Commission and the secretary of the treasury are monitoring the situation and that's where it stands right now," Bush told reporters.

Stocks had opened on Wall Street amid fears the market would repeat its plunge of black Monday on Oct. 19, 1987, when it crashed 508 points.

The Dow index posted a moderate loss after opening at 2567.62. In edgy trading, it fell to show a loss of 65 points after 40 minutes.

"Almost everything opened down, and then held," said Alfred Goldman, A.G. Edwards' director of technical research.

The recovery was dramatic, with the market surging more than 90 points in about 15 minutes and sailing past the 2569.26 level of Friday's close.

On Friday the Dow fell around 190 points to lose 6.9 per cent. "We're seeing a pop in the futures," said Tom Callahan, an executive vice president at Yamaichi International, pointing to a rally in the Standard Poor's 500 futures which helped trigger the recovery.

The New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) began preparations much earlier than usual for what was expected to be very hectic trading. The NYSE opened its computers at 7:30 a.m. to stock orders for the day, more than an hour before the usual start of preparations. The number of orders was much heavier than usual, officials said.

In Washington Federal Reserve (Fed) Board Chairman Alan Greenspan said the central

bank monitored Asian and European financial markets particularly carefully overnight and had close, productive contacts with other members of the Group of Seven leading industrial nations.

In brief remarks at the beginning of a speech on bank capital to the American Bankers Association, Greenspan said detailed coordination was occurring among U.S. regulators — the Fed, the Treasury Department, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Commodities Futures Trading Commission.

Administration officials said privately they were determined to respond in a low key fashion lest they feed the panic that caused Friday's slide.

Earlier, European stock markets shed up to 15 per cent in value in response to Friday's New York selloff but rallied almost as sharply when Wall Street started climbing again.

Analysts said it was too early to say whether the afternoon upturn had turned the selling tide for good but there was widespread relief that damage had been limited.

The key to the recovery was the same as for the fall — signals from Wall Street.

The European fall was seen as an emotional reaction to Friday's New York plunge, caused by worries that a recent string of takeovers which had boosted shares might now be in trouble, particularly those financed by so-called junk bonds.

Randal Goldsmith, equity strategist at London brokers

James Capel said, "today's fall was not justified by the fundamental economics... there was a sense of panic and the market seems at a stage where it's willing to look at any bad news."

Weekend forecasts of a second world stock market crash almost two years to the day from the October 1987 debacle failed to materialise, but billions of dollars were wiped off share values around the globe.

By the close of European trading, most exchanges had rebounded and cut much of the losses of the day after hectic, seesaw trade driven initially by fear and later by relief at Wall Street's sudden recovery.

Big institutional investors appeared to have kept their nerve and stayed away from the market, except to buy at bargain levels from small investors who shed their shares because of the 190.58-point fall in New York Friday.

"In my view the stock market will stabilise relatively quickly," said West German Economics Minister Helmut Haussmann.

"There may be one or other psychological or technical reactions but they are not based on fundamentals. The economy of West Germany and the EC (European Community) is highly stable," he noted.

"It was much worse than anyone expected," said a senior trader at one major Frankfurt bank. "It was just the small investors. But it was still worse than two years ago."

The key London Financial Times/Stock Exchange index of 100 leading shares closed 70.5 points down at 2,163.4, recovering from a selling spree which took it more than 200 points down in early trade to a low of 2,029.7.

But the Frankfurt exchange, among the hardest hit, failed to pick itself up and closed — before Wall Street opened — at 1,385.7 from an opening 1,589.3. At one

stage it was down almost 13 per cent. Losers included prestige carmakers Daimler-Benz and Porsche.

The Paris bourse ended 6.9 per cent down after plummeting at one stage in torrid trade to an 11 per cent fall. Trading in some leading French shares was suspended when they were quoted at below the permissible limit.

Dealing in leading Italian shares was also suspended and the authorities ordered a probe of brokers to ensure that they had the stocks to sell which they were offering.

Selling orders jammed the Dutch exchange causing 10-minute delays in its computer. The Brussels exchange failed to open because of an overload of orders to dump shares.

Currency markets swung violently on differing interpretations of various signals from the market. The dollar sank, rose and ended in London way above its opening.

"The dollar tracked the Dow Jones index," said one dealer. "Once people realised that the Dow Jones was not going to continue to collapse, they marked the dollar up."

Initial dollar direction was geared to speculation that the Fed would make cash more easily available to the New York financial community to cushion it against any fresh crisis in the stock markets.

This would mean loosening credit and the dollar slid at first on the prospect that the high U.S. interest rates which have supported it this year would ease.

But Wall Street then lifted the dollar. It closed in London at 1.8645 marks and 141.65 yen after lows of 1.8400 and 140.33 and a Friday finish of 1.8890 and 143.10.

Gold, refuge of rich and poor alike in times of economic trouble, traded higher throughout the day to close at \$366.25 an ounce from Friday's \$364.00.

Beregovoy attacks 'wild capitalism'

PARIS (R) — French Finance Minister Pierre Berégovoy Sunday blamed "wild capitalism" in the United States for Wall Street's 190-point dive Friday and urged French investors to stay calm.

"What is at issue is the indebtedness of the United States, the fact that the U.S. does not have sufficient savings and that you can buy companies simply by taking on debt up to a terribly high level in order to then sell them piece by piece and realise considerable, and naturally illicit, profits," Berégovoy said in an hour-long television interview.

"Wild capitalism shows us what kind of catastrophe it can produce when it is not regulated or organised," he added.

Berégovoy was asked if he thought international monetary coordination was in disarray — the underlying cause, according to most economists, of the 1987 crash.

He said: "There is good monetary coordination, (but) perhaps not as good as one would wish. We have started to put the international (monetary) system in order, but not enough yet. There are too many conservatives at the head of democratic governments in the world and not enough socialists. So let's work to change things."

U.S. may sell Israel sophisticated computer

NEW YORK (R) — The United States is considering a proposal by International Business Machines (IBM) to sell a restricted computer to Israel for military use, the New York Times reported Monday.

It said the sale of the IBM supercomputer would be the first of its kind to a country that is not a member of NATO.

The newspaper quoted some experts as saying the sale could undermine an agreement between the United States and Japan that prohibits the sale of powerful computers to a number of countries.

Some experts on the proliferation of nuclear weapons also oppose the sale because Israel is developing advanced missiles and is widely believed to possess nuclear weapons, the newspaper said.

It said the IBM computer could rapidly and accurately simulate the explosions of nuclear weapons and the flight of high-speed ballistic missiles.

IBM and U.S. government spokesmen could not be reached for immediate comment on the report.

The newspaper, which quoted several sources in the Bush administration as the basis for its report, said proponents of the sale argue that Israel has a special relationship with the United States and that the Israeli military collaborates closely with the United States on advanced weapons projects.

It said the machine IBM wanted to export was its 3090 mainframe computer. The 3090, which is not usually classified as a supercomputer, would be equipped with a special device that enables it to rapidly reform complex scientific and engineering calculations, thereby placing it in the supercomputer class, the newspaper said.

It said IBM had applied last month for a licence to sell the computer to Israel Military Industries, a government-owned company.

IBM and U.S. government spokesmen could not be reached for immediate comment on the report.

During the November 1988-July 1989 crop-buying season the state's share of commercial grain purchases fell sharply, foreign economists and diplomats said.

"The number of private traders operating on the market went up by a third to just over 2,000," James Moran, an EC agricultural adviser told Reuters.

Grain distribution from surplus to deficit areas improved and retail price increases were moderate, the sources said.

"We did notice that prices in the main commercial markets were fairly stable, not much up on last year, and the quantities available on the open market were substantially up on last year," Moran said.

The AMC's share of the grain trade fell to 224,000 tonnes last year from 300,000 in 1987-88. Private traders handled three quarters of the one million tonnes of grain sold for cash, the sources said.

The government was also preparing legislation to allow private houses to be rented out, foreign economists said.

But the northern provinces of Eritrea and Tigray are suffering their third severe drought in five years and the U.N. World Food Programme estimates that at least

1.7 million people there will need food aid next year to avoid starvation.

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But the northern provinces of Eritrea and Tigray are suffering their third severe drought in five years and the U.N. World Food Programme estimates that at least

1.7 million people there will need food aid next year to avoid starvation.

During the November 1988-July 1989 crop-buying season the state's share of commercial grain purchases fell sharply, foreign economists and diplomats said.

"The number of private traders operating on the market went up by a third to just over 2,000," James Moran, an EC agricultural adviser told Reuters.

Grain distribution from surplus to deficit areas improved and retail price increases were moderate, the sources said.

"We did notice that prices in the main commercial markets were fairly stable, not much up on last year, and the quantities available on the open market were substantially up on last year," Moran said.

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ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

CAEU examines financial needs

AMMAN (Petra) — The budget committee affiliated to the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) opened a meeting here Monday to discuss the council's budget for 1990 which will later be submitted to the council's ministerial meeting for approval. The council's ministerial meeting is to convene here in the first week of December. CAEU Secretary-General Hassan Ibrahim who addressed the opening session revealed that certain Arab countries have so far failed to honour their financial commitments to the organisation. He said that such delinquencies are bound to impede the implementation of programmes and research work conducted by the council. He called on Arab states to help the council overcome its present financial difficulties to enable it cope with the ever increasing responsibilities.

JPRC sells more oil products

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) announced Monday that it had sold a total of 2.09 million tonnes of oil products in the first nine months of this year, up from 2.06 million in the same period of last year. A statement said that the increase was mainly in liquefied gas followed by petrol.

AOID invites Jordan for meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian government has received an invitation to take part in the seventh conference of the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development (AOID) which will open in Tunis Oct. 23. The two-day meeting is expected to review working papers dealing with means to promote inter-Arab cooperation in industrial fields.

Iran, West Germany settle dispute

NICOSIA (R) — Iran had settled a debt dispute with West Germany's export credit guarantee office, Hermes Insurance, clearing the way for long-term borrowing of up to 500 million marks (\$270 million). The Iranian news agency IRNA said the two sides agreed how an Iranian debt to Hermes should be repaid. IRNA did not give the size of the debt but reports from Bonn last year said new West German ventures in Iran were blocked by Iran's refusal to pay some 80 million marks (\$43 million) to German firms. West German government sources said in December a deal was being discussed under which Iran would repay 40 million marks and Bonn would forgive the rest of the debt. IRNA quoted an Iranian foreign ministry official as saying Hermes would now earmark a credit of 500 million marks for long-term projects in Iran. Hermes also agreed to raise the credit ceiling for Iran's short-term transactions, which was previously about 20 million marks, IRNA said.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Monday, October 16, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	99.5	100.5
U.S. dollar	626.0	632.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	444.3	448.7
Pound Sterling	993.5	1003.4	Dutch guilder	299.5	302.5
Deutschemark	338.0	341.4	Swedish crown	97.5	98.5
Swiss franc	386.0	389.9	Italian lira (for 100)	46.0	46.5
			Belgian franc (for 10)	160.4	162.0

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.5850/60	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1733/48	Canadian dollar
	1.8433/90	Deutschemark
	2.0850/57	Dutch guilders
	1.6220/30	Swiss francs
	38.80/85	Belgian francs
	6.2810/60	French francs
	1362/1363	Italian lire
	140.75/85	Japanese yen
	6.4175/4225	Swedish crowns
	6.9100/50	Norwegian crowns
	7.1950/2000	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	366.80/367.30	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Reuters

SYDNEY — The All Ordinaries index closed 8.1 per cent or 141.6 points down at 1600.3 points after a sharp fall on Wall Street Friday.

TOKYO — The Nikkei index plunged 1.84 per cent or 647.33 points to close at 34,468.69 after falling in the morning, partially recovering and then falling back again in thin trade.

HONG KONG — Selling orders from European investors sent prices of blue chips plunging, though before the close there was a small rally. The Hang Seng index ended 180.60 down at 2,601.70.

SINGAPORE — Singapore's share market, which saw a stoploss selling by panicky investors, closed 10 per cent or 142.84 points lower at 1,285.04 from Friday's close.

BOMBAY — Share prices fell on nervous speculative selling amid mounting opposition attack on Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government over corruption charges.

FRANKFURT — A flood of sell orders wiped nearly 13 per cent off the value of major General shares. The 30-share DAX index stood at 1,385.7, a decline of 203.56 points.

PARIS — French shares had lifted off midsession lows by midafternoon. The stock exchanges association SBF said no meaningful value could be given for the CAC-40 index as many of the 40 constituent stocks had been traded.

LONDON — U.K. shares trimmed their losses as Wall Street reversed early declines on programme buying. At 1458 GMT the FTSE index was 109.7 points down at 2,124.2.

NEW YORK — Wall Street blue chips rallied after the Dow fell over 60 points on top of a 191-point fall. The Dow was ahead 25 points.

U.N. forum signals moves to help banks cut Third World debt

GENEVA (R) — Government negotiators have agreed on moves to help commercial banks reduce or cancel debts owed to them by developing countries, the chairman of a United Nations economic forum has said.

Oscar De Rojas of Venezuela told a news conference that a draft resolution tabled at the executive board of the 168-member U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) called for creditor governments to review their tax, regulatory and accounting practices.

The aim of this, the resolution said, was "to remove unnecessary obstacles with respect to new lending to developing countries and debt reduction and debt-service reduction, to ensure that a supportive policy environment is achieved and maintained."

Rojas said this meant helping "banks to reduce debt... the problem with debt reduction with commercial banks is resistance on the part of industrialised countries to force banks to forgive debt or enter into negotiations to

reduce debt." Rojas said Third World countries had hoped UNCTAD, the main U.N. forum for discussion between advanced and developing nations on economic issues, would have produced a stronger resolution on easing their \$1.3 trillion debt burden.

But it represented a step forward in the whole problem of dealing with indebtedness, he added.

The text of the resolution, which noted that overall future prospects for indebted developing countries continued to be unsatisfactory, was agreed in a restricted negotiating group. It still has to be approved at a plenary session of the board, whose two-week meeting ends this week, UNCTAD officials said.

Delegates agreed in another resolution to hold the next full session of UNCTAD, the eighth since its inception in 1964, in 1991 at a Latin American venue to be decided later, the officials said.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

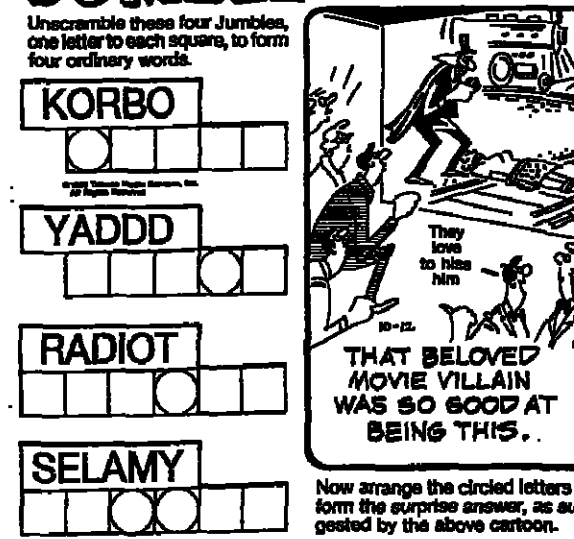
HARRIS 9-21



"The following commercial cost us 20 million bucks! If you don't buy our product, you're in big trouble, pal!"

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FINAL MOOSE HEALTH FONDLY
Answer: What a man in love sometimes shows great ingenuity in making — A FOOL OF HIMSELF.

Jordan Times

Tel: 667171-6

Peanuts

Mutt'n' Jeff

Andy Capp



High-scoring clubs brace for cup showdowns

Reuters

BARCELONA, Real Madrid, PSV Eindhoven and Benfica all warmed up in style for important soccer engagements this week during a high-scoring weekend of European League matches.

Barcelona, heavily criticised earlier in the season, continued where they left off in their 3-0 defeat of Real Madrid the previous week by thrashing Rayo Vallecano 7-1 to move up to seventh in the Spanish League and post a warning to Belgian side Anderlecht, their Cup Winners' Cup opponents Wednesday.

Real themselves bounced back with a 4-0 win over Malaga to go top of the table alongside Atletico Madrid, who slumped to a surprising 2-0 defeat, their first of the season, at Valladolid.

Real manager John Toshack, who flew with his team to Milan Monday for their eagerly awaited European Cup tie against AC Milan, is determined his players should avenge their 5-0 defeat against the same opponents last season.

"We are going to try and put things in their place," he said. "It is normal that over the 90 minutes we should face moments of difficulty but that is when we

must roll up our sleeves and run and work more than ever.

"If we manage to work with discipline, I am sure we'll win the game."

A further boost for Real was the news that key striker Emilio Butragueno, doubtful for Wednesday's game after a recent injury, would travel to Milan. The team doctor said his chances of playing were 50/50.

Dutch champions PSV Eindhoven continued their tremendous goal-scoring form by demolishing MVV Maastricht 8-1, helped admitted by three own goals from their opponents.

"MVV seemed to be striving for a record own goal hat-trick," wrote Volkskrant newspaper, referring to the two MVV's hapless hands managed within 13 minutes of Saturday's match.

PSV's Brazilian striker Romario, who scarcely touched the ball in the first half hour, eventually hit a hat-trick in correct net.

But PSV trainer Guus Hiddink is worried that the challenging match against MVV coming so soon after the 9-1 slaughter of Sparta a week ago could make his team complacent when they meet Steaua Bucharest in the European Cup on Wednesday.

Ex-girl friend claims Borg used cocaine

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Bjorn Borg's ex-girlfriend says the former tennis superstar used cocaine several times during their relationship, according to a published report.

Jannike Bjorling was quoted as saying in the magazine "Z" that Borg's "cocaine abuse... killed their romance and made her so depressed that she once tried to commit suicide," the newspaper Expressen said in its Sunday edition.

Borg was not immediately available for a comment, but his Swedish lawyer, Henning Sjöström, told Expressen, Scandinavia's biggest newspaper, that they will sue Bjorling for slander.

"This is shameless and she will regret this tremendously," Sjöström was quoted as saying, adding that "she's only trying to make money and making up lies about Borg in view of the custody fight for their son."

Borg met Bjorling during a beauty queen contest in Stockholm in 1984, shortly after Borg

and his former wife Mariana Simonescu filed for divorce. One year later, Bjorling and Borg had a son, Robin.

Borg recently married Loredana Berté, an Italian rock singer. Bjorling's allegations are published in the next issue of "Z."

She said Borg offered her cocaine for the first time during a private party in New York a few months after they met.

"Bjorn asked me if I knew what it was and I said 'yes,'" Bjorling was quoted as saying, according to the four-page Expressen report.

"I didn't know what it meant, but Bjorn made me believe that cocaine was funnier than everything else. I thought it was exciting, but I didn't know it was dangerous."

After setting in Borg's mansion outside Stockholm, Bjorling said they kept on using cocaine, according to the Expressen report.

Bjorling said in the interview that Borg purchased the drug



Bjorn Borg

from a businessman in Stockholm.

Borg, 33, was considered a model athlete on the court during his glory years in the late 1970s and early 80s. In addition to an unprecedented five straight Wimbledon wins from 1976 to 1980, Borg captured six French Opens, led Sweden to its first Davis Cup triumph in 1975 and was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 1987.

Soviets maintain lead in gymnastics championships

STUTTGART (R) — The elegance and grace of Svetlana Boginskaya put the Soviet Union in a seemingly unbeatable position in the women's team competition at the world gymnastics championships Monday.

Though 16-year-old Boginskaya, Olympic vault champion, was eclipsed on two apparatus by team mate Olesia Dudnik and Romanian Daniela Silivas, she proved the most consistent performer in the team compulsory exercises with 9.925 the lowest of her four marks.

Silivas, Olympic winner on three apparatus, had given defending women's team champions Romania hope early in the day with her mark of 10 on the vault — the first perfect score of the championships.

Before most of the seats at Stuttgart's Schleyer Hall had been filled, Silivas opened with a perfectly executed vault in the team compulsory exercises and earned 10 points from the judges.

With a 9.912 on the asymmetric bars and 9.962 for her rendition of the floor routine, Silivas, the Olympic all-around silver medalist, put herself in the lead in the individual standings.

Silivas, now 19, was the first gymnast to vault when Monday's programme opened. Other competitors have complained about being drawn for the early morning session but Silivas, the reigning world champion on the asym-



Dadela Silivas — 1st perfect mark

metric bars and floor, had no such qualms.

Olesia Dudnik, joint European beam champion, added a 10 for the Soviet women with a beautifully executed floor routine but then scotched her own chances in the individual event when she almost fell from the asymmetric bars and collected only 9.362.

Romania, with reigning world all-around champion Aurelia Dobre disappointing, were second after the compulsory but trailed the Soviet team by 196.447 points to 198.058 — a massive gap in gymnastics.

China, fourth at the last world

championships two years ago, looked well poised for a medal thanks to a superb debut by Yang Bo, third in the individual standings, behind Boginskaya and Silivas, after three marks of 9.937 or more Sunday.

Fund for Duffy

Gymnasts at the world championships in Stuttgart decided Monday to set up a fund to help Puerto Rican Adriana Duffy, who may be paralysed for life after slipping from the vault in training last Thursday.

Magers beats Zvereva, wins Moscow final

MOSCOW (R) — Third-seed Gretchen Magers of the United States overcame the Soviet number one Natalya Zvereva 6-3, 6-4 in Sunday's Moscow women's tennis tournament final, a match marred by double-faults and unforced errors on both sides.

Beset with service problems from the start, Magers kept her cool and wore down her opponent, the second seed and favourite following top seed Pam Shriver's second round defeat, consistently getting the better of long baseline exchanges.

"We were playing more on emotions than tennis strokes," Magers conceded after the match. "I was very nervous, but I thought I had the chance to win

by doing the right thing at the right time."

Zvereva had the best of the opening games, breaking Magers in the third to lead 2-1. But the American broke back in the sixth game and served to love in the seventh to lead 4-3.

Two perfectly judged drop-volleys and a crucial double fault by Zvereva gave Magers the chance to serve for the first set. She hung on through four deuces to take it, apparently oblivious to the crowds' whistles over some of the line calls.

In the second set, neither player seemed willing to take the initiative and it was only after five breaks of serve that Magers finally held her serve to take a 4-2

lead.

Zvereva broke back in the eighth to make it 4-4, but lost the next game through a series of unforced errors. After a moment of confusion when the crowd drowned out a line-call, Magers was home and dry.

A disappointed Zvereva said she had played far below her best. "It wasn't so much nervousness as thinking too much about how I was going to win — it just didn't work out at the most important points."

"Yesterday I was playing badly too (in the semifinal against fellow-Soviet Natalya Medvedeva). But that's the difference in level between Medvedeva and Magers. Yesterday I won and today I lost."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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AN UNEXPECTED ENTRY

Both vulnerable. South deals.
NORTH
AKQ8
AKJ
54
K1084
WEST
J
Q10942
AKQ109830J7
Void
EAST
42
753
J97652
SOUTH
1097653
86
62
AQ3

The bidding:
South West North East
Pass 1 0 DN Pass
2 5 0 5 4 Pass
Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠
There is a tie in the affairs of men which, taken at the flood, leads to their hands appearing in bridge columns. This deal, featuring veteran internationalist Sidney Leonard of New Orleans in the West seat, cropped up in a national team championship.

South's jump to two spades in response to his partner's takeout double was a distinct stretch even though the bid is only invitational, not forcing. Leonard tried to jam the auction with his jump to five dia-

monds, but there was no denying North.

We have often featured this type of hand where West has led a low card away from his honors to obtain a ruff. If that was necessary here, however, it would be because either declarer or dummy held a singleton diamond (by no means a sure thing), and West would have to find his partner with a trick if the contract were to be defeated. But if his partner did have a defensive trick, an underlead of the diamond honors could give declarer an unexpected trick and his contract.

Therefore, West elected to make the normal lead of the king of diamonds. He was unhappy both at the sight of dummy and the fact that his partner began an echo to show a doubler by dropping his jack. From the cards in dummy, it was obvious that East could not have anything resembling a solid defensive trick. Desperate measures were called for.

At trick two West led the three of diamonds! He was lucky—East held the seven of diamonds. When that card won the trick, East had no difficulty in working out what his partner wanted. His club return and the resulting ruff netted the defenders a total of three tricks—just enough to beat the hand.

THE Daily Crossword by Harvey L. Chew

ACROSS	DOWN
1. Removed	1. A
2. Sincere	2. B
3. River to the	3. C
4. Capitan	4. D
5. Winged	5. E
6. Author	6. F
7. Gardner	7. G
8. Unadorned	8. H
9. Edit	9. I
10. Hollywood's	10. J
11. Charney	11. K
12. Calabrian coin	12. L
13. Master	13. M
14. Set of shelves	14. N
15. Soft drink	15. O
16. Map abbr.	16. P
17. Particulars	17. Q
18. Father's spouse	18. R
19. Was sorry	19. S
20. Ledger entry	20. T
21. Succulent plant	21. U
22. Type	22. V
23. This	23. W
24. "The ..."	24. X
25. Stuff to put with	25. Y
26. Holiday time	26. Z
27. Sequence of	
28. Made a bet	
29. Pub order	
30. Chess	
31. Trolling stock	
32. Sum	
33. Elementary	
34. Carriage	
35. Platform	
36. "You ..."	
37. There"	
38. Old sp.	
39. Ground and	
40. Discoverer	
41. Wet blanket	
42. Rock	
43. Correct fault	
44. Belg. river	
45. Son of Seth	
46. Ocean inlet	
47. A	
48. B	
49. C	
50. D	
51. E	
52. F	
53. G	
54. H	
55. I	
56. J	
57. K	
58. L	
59. M	
60. N	
61. O	
62. P	
63. Q	
64. R	
65. S	
66. T	
67. U	
68. V	
69. W	
70. X	
71. Y	
72. Z	

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Saturday's Puzzle Solved:

1. A 2. B 3. C 4. D 5. E 6. F 7. G 8. H 9. I 10. J 11. K 12. L 13. M 14. N 15. O 16. P 17. Q 18. R 19. S 20. T 21. U 22. V 23. W 24. X 25. Y 26. Z

27. A 28. B 29. C 30. D 31. E 32. F 33. G 34. H 35. I 36. J 37. K 38. L 39. M 40. N 41. O 42. P 43. Q 44. R 45. S 46. T 47. U 48. V 49. W 50. X 51. Y 52. Z

53. A 54. B 55. C 56. D 57. E 58. F 59. G 60. H 61. I 62. J 63. K 64. L 65. M 66. N 67. O 68. P 69. Q 70. R 71. S 72. T 73. U 74. V 75. W 76. X 77. Y 78. Z

79. A 80. B 81. C 82. D 83. E 84. F 85. G 86. H 87. I 88. J 89. K 90. L 91. M 92. N 93. O 94. P 95. Q 96. R 97. S 98. T 99. U 100. V 101. W 102. X 103. Y 104. Z

105. A 106. B 107. C 108. D 109. E 110. F 111. G 112. H 113. I 114. J 115. K 116. L 117. M 118. N 119. O 120. P 121. Q 122. R 123. S 124. T 125. U 126. V 127. W 128. X 129. Y 130. Z

131. A 132. B 133. C 134. D 135. E 136. F 137. G 138. H 139. I 140. J 141. K 142. L 143. M 144. N 145. O 146. P 147. Q 148. R 149. S 150. T 151. U 152. V 153. W 154. X 155. Y 156. Z

157. A 158. B 159. C 160. D 161. E 162. F 163. G 164. H 165. I 166. J 167. K 168. L 169. M 170. N 171. O 172. P 173. Q 174. R 175. S 176. T 177. U 178. V 179. W 180. X 181. Y 182. Z

183. A 184. B 185. C 186. D 187. E 188. F 189. G 190. H 191. I 192. J 193. K 194. L 195. M 196. N 197. O 198. P 199. Q 200. R 201. S 202. T 203. U 204. V 205. W 206. X 207. Y 208. Z

209. A 210. B 211. C 212. D 213. E 214. F 215. G 216. H 217. I 218. J 219. K 220. L 221. M 222. N 223. O 224. P 225. Q 226. R 227. S 228. T 229. U 230. V 231. W 232. X 233. Y 234. Z

235. A 236. B 237. C 238. D 239. E 240. F 241. G 242. H 243. I 244. J 245. K 246. L 247. M 248. N 249. O 250. P 251. Q 252. R 253. S 254. T 255. U 256. V 257. W 258. X 259. Y 260. Z

261. A 262. B 263. C 264. D 265. E 266. F 267. G 268. H 269. I 270. J 271. K 272. L 273. M 274. N 275. O 276. P 277. Q 278. R 279. S 280. T 281. U 282. V 283. W 284. X 285. Y 286. Z

287. A 288. B 289. C 290. D 291. E 292. F 293. G 294. H 295. I 296. J 297. K 298. L 299. M 300. N 301. O 302. P 303. Q 304. R 305. S 306. T 307. U 308. V 309. W 310. X 311. Y 312. Z

313. A 314. B 315. C 316. D 317. E 318. F 319. G 320. H 321. I 322. J 323. K 324. L 325. M 326. N 327. O 328. P 329. Q 330. R 331. S 332. T 333. U 334. V 335. W 336. X 337. Y 338. Z

339. A 340. B 341. C 342. D 343. E 344. F 345. G 346. H 347. I 348. J 349. K 350. L 351. M 352. N 353. O 354. P 355. Q 356. R 357. S 358. T 359. U 360. V 361. W 362. X 363. Y 364. Z

365. A 366. B 367. C 368. D 369. E 370. F 371. G 372. H 373. I 374. J 375. K 376. L 377. M 378. N 379. O 380. P 381. Q 382. R 383. S 384. T 385. U 386. V 387. W 388. X 389. Y 390. Z

391. A 392. B 393. C 394. D 395. E 396. F 397. G 398. H 399. I 400. J 401. K 402. L 403. M 404. N 405. O 406. P 407. Q 408. R 409. S 410. T 411. U 412. V 413. W 414. X 415. Y 416. Z

417. A 418. B 419. C 420. D 421. E 422. F 423. G 424. H 425. I 426. J 427. K 428. L 429. M 430. N 431. O 432. P 433. Q 434. R 435. S 436. T 437. U 438. V 439. W 440. X 441. Y 442. Z

443. A 444. B 445. C 446. D 447. E 448. F 449. G 450. H 451. I 452. J 453. K 454. L 455. M 456. N 457. O 458. P 459. Q 460. R 461. S 462. T 463. U 464. V 465. W 466. X 467. Y 468. Z

469. A 470. B 471. C 472. D 473. E 474. F 475. G 476. H 477. I 478. J 479. K 480. L 481. M 482. N 483. O 484. P 485. Q 486. R 487. S 488. T 489. U 490. V 491. W 492. X 493. Y 494. Z

495. A 496. B 497. C 498. D 499. E 500. F 501. G 502. H 503. I 504. J 505. K 506. L 507. M 508. N 509. O 510. P 511. Q 512. R 513. S 514. T 515. U 516. V 517. W 518. X 519. Y 520. Z

521. A 522. B 523. C 524. D 525. E 526. F 527. G 528. H 529. I 530. J 531. K 532. L 533. M 534. N 535. O 536. P 537. Q 538. R 539. S 540. T 541. U 542. V 543. W 544. X 545. Y 546. Z

547. A 548. B 549. C 550. D 551. E 552. F 553. G 554. H 555. I 556. J 557. K 558. L 559. M 560. N 561. O 562. P 563. Q 564. R 565. S 566. T 567. U 568. V 569. W 570. X 571. Y 572. Z

573. A 574. B 575. C 576. D 577. E 578. F 579. G 580. H 581. I 582. J 583. K 584. L 585. M 586. N 587. O 588. P 589. Q 590. R 591. S 592. T 593. U 594. V 595. W 596. X 597. Y 598. Z

599. A 600. B 601. C 602. D 603. E 604. F 605. G 606. H 607. I 608. J 609. K 610. L 611. M 612. N 613. O 614. P 615. Q 616. R 617. S 618. T 619. U 620. V 621. W 622. X 623. Y 624. Z

625. A 626. B 627. C 628. D 629. E 630. F 631. G 632. H 633. I 634. J 635. K 636. L 637. M 638. N 639. O 640. P 641. Q 642. R 643. S 644. T 645. U 646. V 647. W 648. X 649. Y 650. Z

651. A 652. B 653. C 654. D 655. E 656. F 657. G 658. H 659. I 660. J 661. K 662. L 663. M 664. N 665. O 666. P 667. Q 668. R 669. S 670. T 671. U 672. V 673. W 674. X 675. Y 676. Z

677. A 678. B 679. C 680. D 681. E 682. F 683. G 684. H 685. I 686. J 687. K 688. L 689. M 690. N 691. O 692. P 693. Q 694. R 695. S 696. T 697. U 698. V 699. W 700. X 701. Y 702. Z

703. A 704. B 705. C 706. D 707. E 708. F 709. G 710. H 711. I 712. J 713. K 714. L 715. M 716. N 717. O 718. P 719. Q 720. R 721. S 722. T 723. U 724. V 725. W 726. X 727. Y 728. Z

729. A 730. B 731. C 732. D 733. E 734. F 735. G 736. H 737. I 738. J

Release of ANC leaders seen heralding new era in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — The unconditional release of seven African National Congress (ANC) leaders has opened a new political era that will be full of dramatic change and uncertainty, newspapers across the political spectrum said Monday.

"The country enters a new phase in its history," the pro-government Citizen said in an editorial. "But it is not going to be an easy transition... (and) nobody knows what kind of new country will emerge."

The seven ANC leaders, released Sunday along with a member of the other liberation movement, told supporters they believe the end of apartheid — South Africa's policy of racial segregation — is coming into view.

Walter Sisulu, a friend and colleague of ANC leader Nelson Mandela, said the seven, aged 60 and 80, were confident they would live to see "a government that includes blacks... a democratic method where a black man can become president, or a white man can become president."

Sisulu remained at his home Monday in Soweto, the huge black township outside Johannesburg. "Today is a day of rest," he

told a visitor.

The Sowetan, the country's largest black-oriented daily, cautioned that "the task facing the men is a daunting one: that of uniting the democratic forces in this country and transforming it into a non-racial democracy."

Business Day, the country's leading financial daily, concurred.

"This is only the start of a long and complex process," wrote editor Ken Owen. "What is said by Sisulu and his colleagues this week will be as important for creating a negotiating climate as President (F.W.) de Klerk's bold move in ordering their freedom."

De Klerk announced the unconditional release of the eight anti-apartheid leaders last Tuesday as part of his attempt to improve political conditions for negotiating a new constitution that will extend political rights to blacks.

But he envisions some arrangement under which whites would retain veto power over major decisions.

Under the current system of apartheid, the 28-million black majority has no voice in national affairs, which are dominated by the country's 5 million whites.

The prison releases are viewed

as a tacit acknowledgement by the government of the ANC's influence and popularity among South Africa's blacks.

Even relatively conservative black leaders have said they will reject any negotiations with the government unless the ANC is legalised and its jailed leaders freed.

"Our determination has never been weakened by our long years of imprisonment," Sisulu told hundreds of ANC followers who packed a church hall Sunday evening. "We have been strengthened by the developments in our country and our own clear vision of the future."

Some in the crowd wept as the freed prisoners, raising clenched fists, led their supporters in singing "God Bless Africa," the anthem of the anti-apartheid movement.

Sisulu and the six other ANC members were freed early Sunday along with Jifa Masemola, 58, of the Pan Africanist Congress, a smaller movement.

The releases are viewed as a tacit acknowledgement by the government of the ANC's influence and popularity among South Africa's black majority.

Sisulu and his colleagues, seated in front of a large green, gold and black ANC flag, expressed

regret that Mandela remains in prison and said they would press for his release.

They said the ANC, the largest group fighting the white-led government, will continue its military campaign and reject calls for negotiations until the government legalises it, lifts the state of emergency, and releases all political prisoners.

"If the government doesn't meet our demands, we have no alternative but to continue to fight for our freedom," said Andrew Mlangeni, 63.

Five of the ANC men, including Sisulu and Mlangeni, were arrested in 1963 and sentenced to life prison terms in 1964, along with Mandela, for plotting anti-government sabotage. Masemola was convicted of sabotage in separate trial in 1963.

The others freed Sunday were Elias Mosekoele, 65; Ahmad Kathrada, 60; Raymond Mhlaba, 68; Wilton Mkwayi, 67; and Oscar Mpetsha, 80, who had been hospitalised in Cape Town and was the nation's oldest political prisoner.

Mpetsha, who had been serving a five-year prison term for terrorism, rose from his wheelchair Sunday to walk by himself into his small home near Cape Town before flying to Johannesburg.

Hundreds attend Marcos ceremony

HONOLULU (AP) — While his family awaits a ruling on a permanent burial site, Ferdinand E. Marcos has been entombed in Hawaii in a ceremony attended by hundreds of the late Philippine president's loyalists.

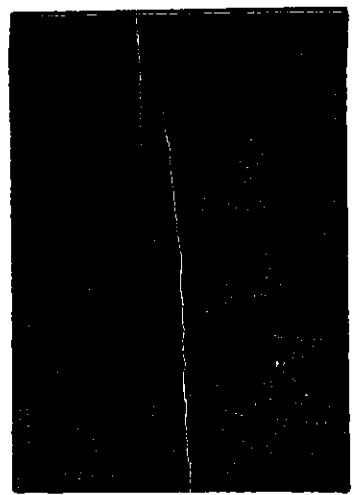
"Weep not, for you sat at the feet of a man touched by God," Ferdinand Marcos Jr. said during the tribute to his father Sunday.

"He was my hero, he was my general. He was my teacher, my friend. He was my father," said Marcos, commonly known as "Bong Bong."

The family says the former president's body will remain in the above-ground tomb until it can be returned to the Philippines, which he ruled for 20 years until he was ousted in a popular uprising three years ago.

In the Philippines, President Corason Aquino said Monday it was up to the supreme court to decide whether the entombment in Hawaii would be as temporary as the ousted president's family hopes.

Marcos' followers have asked the supreme court to overturn a ban on his burial in the Philippines, but there is no indication



Ferdinand Marcos when the 15-judge panel will issue a ruling.

"From what I have been reading from the newspapers, the family of Marcos is thinking of this entombment as very temporary," Aquino told reporters. "As we all know, the matter is now with the supreme court, and it is up to the supreme court to decide whether the remains of Mr. Marcos will be allowed here or not."

More than 2,500 people waited hours for Marcos' widow, Imelda, to arrive at the Valley of the Temples memorial park with her husband's body.

Enrique Fernandez, the last Philippine supreme court chief justice during Marcos' presidency, collapsed during Bong Bong's emotional speech and was hospitalised.

Colombia police seize trafficker, accountant

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Authorities have captured a man convicted in the United States of drug trafficking and seized an accountant who allegedly worked for one of Colombia's most powerful drug lords, news reports said.

Police arrested Victor Eduardo Mera Mosquera, 36, at his apartment Friday in the southern city of Cali, according to reports published Sunday in Bogota's two largest papers, El Tiempo and El Espectador.

Mera Mosquera was arrested in New York in February 1984 and charged with taking part in a drug ring operating in the states of New York, Florida, Texas, California and Arizona, El Tiempo reported.

El Espectador said Mera Mosquera was freed from a New York jail because of a "bureaucratic error" but was later convicted in absentia. It did not elaborate.

The paper said he was arrested again in Bogota in 1986 but was released months later by a judge who ruled that authorities had not completed the paperwork for his extradition to the United States in the time allotted by law.

Spokesman for the national and local police in Cali said they could not confirm Mera Mosquera's arrest or provide any details about him. The U.S. embassy in Bogota said it does not comment on specific extradition cases.

In a raid Saturday on a Bogota apartment, police captured Tulio Consuelo Rincon Barrera, 35, an alleged accountant for Jose Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha, one of the three leaders of the Medellin cocaine cartel, El Espectador reported.

The accountant maintains he has never met the Medellin cartel leader and only filled out income tax forms for one of his reputed underlings, Leonardo Vargas, who was arrested last week, El Espectador said.

The two arrests culminated a week of intensified operations against drug traffickers. Among other suspected traffickers seized last week was Jose Rafael Abello Silva, 34, who is wanted in the U.S. state of Oklahoma on federal charges of conspiracy and distribution of cocaine.

Julian Palma Molina, 46, also was arrested last week and is wanted by federal authorities in Miami on drug trafficking and money laundering charges. El Espectador reported Sunday that he has been notified of his extradition and has five days to appeal.

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Nancy Reagan sees herself as lightning rod for criticism

NEW YORK (R) — Nancy Reagan attributes her unpopularity to the popularity of her husband and says she did use an astrologer to schedule his trips, according to excerpts from her memoirs published in this week's edition of Newsweek.

"In many ways, I think I served as a lightning rod and I came to realize, not without pain, that while Ronald Reagan was extremely popular, some people didn't like his wife very much," Mrs. Reagan writes in her book "My Turn: The Memoirs of Nancy Reagan."

Nancy Reagan said she began consulting astrologer Joan Quigley after the former president was shot in 1981 and admits it eventually became habit and finally an enormous embarrassment.

to her husband.

"If it makes you feel better, go ahead and do it," she says her husband told her when he first learned of it, but added: "But be careful. It might look a little odd if it ever came out."

In the book written with William Novak and to be published later this month, she is also highly critical of former White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan who revealed her use of an astrologer in his memoirs.

"He often acted as if he were president," she writes. "If by some miracle, I could take back one decision in Ronald's presidency, it would be his agreement in January 1985 that Jim Baker and Donald Regan swap jobs."

She adds that Regan should have taken responsibility for the

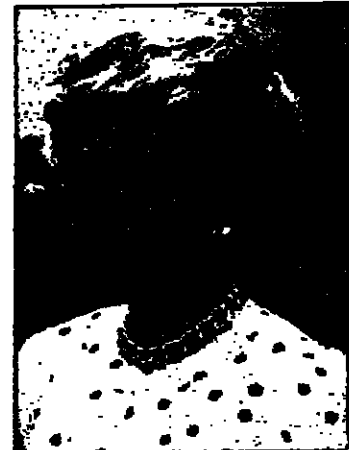
Iran-contra affair, the scandal over plans to give money to Nicaraguan rebels from arms sales to Iran.

"I'm not saying that Iran-contra was Donald Regan's doing. But it did occur on his watch, and when it came out, he should have taken responsibility."

Reagan defends her giving advice to the former president. "I make no apologies for telling him what I thought. For eight years I was sleeping with the president, and if that doesn't give you special access, I don't know what does."

She criticizes Reagan's first Secretary of State Al Haig for his power-hunger and obsession with status.

"He was obsessed with matters of status — with exactly where he stood on a receiving line, or



Nancy Reagan where he was seated on a plane or helicopter," she writes.

She also cites his belligerency. "Once, talking about Cuba in a meeting of the National Security Council (NSC) he turned to Ronald and said, 'You just give me the word and I'll turn that island into a parking lot,'" she writes.

Unusual museum caters to 'spud' lovers and their 'tater' tots

By Robert M. Andrews
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Tater, tuber, or spud? Whatever you call it, the gold-colored tuber is the star of a new museum that boasts a museum all its own, featuring such oddities as 4,000-year-old potatoes, a basket woven from potatoes and a "tater time clock."

The potato museum is surely one of the most interesting in Washington, if not anywhere in the world. It occupies the basement of a brick row house that is the home of Tom and Meredith Hughes, a fun-loving couple of spud fanatics who told their five-year-old son Gulliver's nickname, is "Tater Tot."

Filling the two tiny basement rooms are 400 items from the

Hughes' collection of 2,000 potato artifacts.

They include such items as a browned, heart-shaped potato donated by a Canadian woman, and an American inventor's digital "tater time clock" which runs on electrical current supplied by the acids in two attached potatoes.

The goodness of the potato knows no bounds, the couple gushed in "the great potato book," the tuber tome they wrote in 1986 extolling the virtues of their favorite vegetable.

Visitors to the private, non-profit museum are welcomed by Mrs. Hughes with a slide show of potato folklore, accompanied by recorded musical tunes such as the "Cold Tater

Stomp" and "Addicted to Spuds."

Then her husband, a school teacher, invites guests to watch his videotape of "great moments in potatoes" from Hollywood movies. The scenes include Marilyn Monroe snacking on potato chips in "The Seven Year Itch" and Richard Dreyfuss making a mountain of his mashed potatoes at the dinner table in the alien film, "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

Question: What was the biggest potato ever grown?

Answer: An Englishman named Thomas Suddall is reputed to have harvested a monster spud weighing 8.27 kilograms Feb. 17, 1793.

Question: What was the biggest single serving of mashed

potatoes in history?

Answer: An 8,282 kilogram mound of mashed potatoes, prepared in a cement mixer truck for the annual potato bowl football game at Grand Forks, North Dakota, in 1982.

The museum's shelves are stuffed with such oddities as an air pistol that shoots potato pellets, potato dolls, a jacket made out of a burlap potato sack and some 4,000-year-old potatoes preserved in a jar.

There also is a basket woven from deep-fried potato skins by a New Orleans chef and a staggering assortment of potato mashers, slicers, peelers, scrubbers, hoers, rakes, planters, baskets, diggers and beetle sprayers.

One rack displays sample

products made from potatoes: Polish vodka, hand lotion, ice cream, bread, a sheet of paper, a necklace and "autochromes," an early color photographic process using potato starch — which also has been used to make candy and glue.

Hughes says potatoes fueled German rockets in World War II, and once were used as money by the island people of Tristan da Cunha.

They are good for treating acne, sunburn and toothaches, he claims, and they make great chicken feed.

The potato museum began in 1975, when Hughes asked his elementary school pupils at the International School of Brussels to prepare an exhibit showing why potatoes are so important in Belgium.

The Belgians grow potatoes in backyard gardens the way Americans grow tomatoes, he says, and their "frites" — which Americans call french fries — are the most delicious in the world.

Artifacts from that classroom project formed the nucleus of the museum, which moved to Washington with the Hugheses in 1983. The independent, tax-exempt museum gets most of its financial support from membership dues, souvenir sales and a grant from a potato research center in Lima, Peru.

For \$20 a year, members receive six issues of the museum's newsletter, "Peelings," and invitations to occasional potato dinners where the all-potato menu ranges

from pickled potato hors d'oeuvres to a dessert made of chocolate-laced mashed potatoes.

Hughes says he and Meredith have two ambitions: To visit the Chilean island where Spanish explorers found potatoes, and introduced them to Europe in 1570, and to take a cruise on a newly built Japanese potato tanker.

The Hugheses love potatoes because they're not only good eating, but they're fun and friendly.

"They are a comfort food when we feel lonely, sick or sad, but we also see something of ourselves in them," said Mrs. Hughes, cradling a spud in her hand. "Look, it was eyes, a head, a face. It's somehow almost human."

Global weather (major world cities)		°F	°C	Weather
AMSTERDAM	09	49	10	Cloudy
ATHENS	12	54	10	Cloudy
BAHRAIN	26	79	26	Clear
BANGKOK	24	75	31	Clear
Buenos Aires	17	63	26	Clear
Cairo	16	61	20	Clear
CHICAGO	15	60	28	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	08	43	11	Clear
FRANKFURT	05	37	15	Clear
GENOVA	07	44	15	Clear
HONG KONG	24	75	28	Clear
ISTANBUL	14	57	17	Clear
LONDON	12	54	16	Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	15	59	22	Clear
MADRID	11	52	21	Clear
MEXICO	24	75	41	Clear
MONTREAL	05	41	16	Cloudy
MOSCOW	05	41	27	Cloudy
NEW DELHI	18	64	32	Clear
NEW YORK	14	57	20	Rain
PARIS	06	42	17	Clear
ROME	11	52	21	Clear
SYDNEY	16	61	23	Cloudy
TOKYO	16	61	23	Clear
VIENNA	08	48	15	Clear

COLUMN 8

Clumsy director throws himself into work

NEW YORK (AP) — Film Director Louis Malle is a clumsy man who throws himself into life with such zeal that he often lands on his head, says Malle's wife, actress Candice Bergen. "He's always bleeding," Bergen said in the Oct. 30 issue of U.S. magazine. "Once, in Paris, I met him at the airport during the time of all the terrorist attacks. Suddenly, I saw everybody in the airport was backing up, aghast, as Louis parted the crowd, with his head in bloody bandages. 'Everybody thought he'd been a victim of terrorism, but he'd just been running to get a luggage cart and hit his head on a pole,' said Bergen. Bergen said her three-year-old daughter, Chloe, shares her father's metabolism and curiosity. And, so far, her mother's disregard for high fashion.

'Queen's jewels fill palace basement'

LONDON (R) — Queen Elizabeth's private treasure of jewels fills a palace basement as big as an ice rink, a British newspaper said Monday. Extracts in the Daily Mail from a new book on the British royal family's wealth said a secret storehouse some 12 metres beneath Buckingham Palace contained a veritable zoo of exquisitely carved faberge animals and other expensive trinkets. The stomachy pro-royal newspaper said the treasure trove was kept under plastic sheets on rows of cheap wooden shelves in a series of white-walled rooms covering an area the size of an ice rink. A jewelry auctioneers asked by the Daily Mail to put a price tag on the jewels said the cache of diamonds, emeralds, pearls, sapphires and rubies was worth at least \$35.6 million (\$57 million). Laurence Kressel of jewellers Harry Winston of New York based his estimate on the face value of the queen's gems that have appeared in photographs. The newspaper said collectors interested in buying a piece of history could drive the price up to \$200 million (\$480 million) if the jewels ever went under the hammer at a public auction. The treasure trove represents just a fraction of Queen Elizabeth's wealth, estimated in the billions. The private collection is separate from the crown jewels in the Tower of London, which are held by the royal family in trust for the nation.

New opera star debuts in 'Aida'

NEW YORK (AP) — Just a few years ago, American opera audiences and critics were bemoaning the lack of any new Verdi sopranos to fill the void left by the retirement of Leontyne Price. Then came a young American upstart named Aprile Millo. On Saturday came another — Alessandra Marc. Even in a Metropolitan Opera season notable for exciting debuts, Marc's first performance as "Aida" was something special, as the standing-room-only crowd acknowledged with its repeated ovations. Here is the genuine article — a dramatic soprano with an opulent voice that can be thrilling in its power or tender in its warmth as the occasion demands. She has the glowing tones to ride above the full forces of orchestra and chorus that Verdi assembled for the triumphal scene of Act II. She has the artistry to create a portrayal of the tormented Ethiopian princess in the Act I "O Patria Mia," which opens the Nile scene in Act II.